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Iran raises peace hopes

US made hostage crisis more difficult: Rafsanjani

TEHRAN, June 6, (Agencies): Iran's President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani held out hopes today for peace with Iraq and an end to tense relations with Britain and Saudi Arabia.

But he attacked the United States for what he said was its irresponsible, arrogant attitudes and actions which made Iran's efforts to end the Lebanon hostage crisis more difficult.

"The way is now open for the United States to act, if they want to solve the hostage

problem," Rafsanjani told a news conference at the presidential palace. He held out hope for an eventual peace with Iraq. But he said Iran was cautious over the motives of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, who sent two letters to Tehran suggesting a summit meeting.

"We have not given a negative reply to Iraq's proposal," Rafsanjani said.

He added, however, that experts from both countries should first work out details in co-ordination with the United Nations, which sponsored the August 1988 ceasefire that halted the eight-year Gulf war.

Arab states welcomed the Iranian response to Iraqi peace overtures today, saying they opened the way to a new era of peace in the Gulf.

Cheddi Klibi, secretary-general of the 21-member Arab League, said in a statement:

"I can affirm the deep satisfaction of all (Arab) states at the clearing of the way for direct negotiations at the highest level between Iraq and Iran, to reach a peaceful settlement which opens a new era based on peace, security and stability in the Arabian Gulf region."

"When Iraq sent the letters, we were hopeful that Saddam Hussein had serious intentions. But what he did at the Baghdad summit shook our confidence," Rafsanjani said.

The Iranian president reiterated at the news conference that Tehran wanted to resume relations with Britain, broken in March last year after the late Ayatollah Khomeini ordered Muslims to kill British author Salman Rushdie for blaspheming Islam in his book "The Satanic Verses."

But he said Khomeini's death order had been made under sacred Islamic law and could not be lifted.

Iran has been trying to separate what it sees as a political problem from the religious matter of the death order. It has said it would be satisfied on a political level if Britain condemned the insult to Islam as Iran's parliament had demanded.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said yesterday Britain was concerned over insults to Islam, just as it was concerned over insults to Christianity.

Rafsanjani said he did not know if this would be regarded as a condemnation, but added: "I have told the Foreign Ministry that whenever Britain complies with the ruling, it should go ahead and improve relations."

He attacked the United States for failing, after the release of two US hostages in Lebanon, to press for the release of Muslims held by Israel and Iranians seized by Lebanese Christians.

"We expected a favourable reply. I can say we did not get one," he said.

He listed three factors that made it difficult for Iran to seek the release of more American hostages.

These included a US Senate resolution recognising Jerusalem as Israel's capital, US action "facilitating the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel," and a US veto to a proposed UN fact-finding mission to the occupied Arab territories.

"We contact those holding the hostages through third parties. The Lebanese have proven to be responsible towards release of the hostage," he did not elaborate this last remark.

Saudi Arabia deploys long-range missiles

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has completed the deployment of Chinese surface-to-surface missiles able to hit targets anywhere in the Middle East, according to Israeli intelligence sources quoted in a British magazine.

Flight International said 120 CSS-2 missiles, with a range of 2,700 km (1,700 miles), were now operational at Al Sulayli, 500 km (315 miles) south of Riyadh, and at Al Joffir, 100 km (60 miles) south of the capital.

Each site has four to six concrete launchers for the missiles bought in a 1987 Chinese-Saudi deal which Israel says was brokered by Pakistan, according to Flight International.



Fine catch

Colombia's goalkeeper Rene Higuita goes through his paces during training in Bologna, Italy. (Reuters wirephoto)

Argentina ready to defend Cup title

MILAN, Italy, June 6, (Reuters): All eyes will be on Diego Maradona when Argentina begins their defence of the World Cup in the opening match against Cameroon at Milan's San Siro Stadium on Friday.

The Argentines are almost as much of an unknown quantity as when they set off on a brilliant run to the title four years ago.

But Maradona, their inspiration of the 1986 tournament in Mexico, has been in scintillating form in practice games. His form augurs well for the world champions.

Argentina, and particularly Maradona, will be wary of the complacency that undermined Cesar Menotti's side defending the title won at home in 1978. They crashed to a 1-0 defeat to Belgium in the opening match of the 1982 tournament in Barcelona.

Coach Carlos Bilardo has made more changes to his team than Menotti did, only five 1986 veterans taking the field against Cameroon, unbeaten in their three World Cup matches in Spain where they held eventual champions Italy to a 1-1 draw in the opening round.

Mexico veterans Nery Pumpido in goal, stopper Oscar Ruggeri and midfielders Sergio Batista and Jorge Burruchaga form the backbone of the side along with Maradona.

Argentina have in 30-year-old striker Claudio Caniggia, if selected, could become one of the stars of the tournament with his electric turn of speed, skill on the ball and sharp finishing with feet or head.

One of Bilardo's main concerns has been to weld the old hands with the newcomers in his squad and reduce to a minimum the chance of mistakes.

"If you make a mistake (at this level) you pay dearly," Bilardo said. "I've been trying to build confidence between the new and experienced players."

Survivors of Cameroon's 1982 side include 38-year-old forward Roger Milla, for many seasons a star in the French League, and goalkeeper Thomas N'Kono, 34, hero of the 1982 finals but now second choice.

(See also Page 23 A 24)

UAE to enjoy Cup

Players realise achievement

BOLOGNA, June 6, (Reuters): Bescigned by the media and curious soccer fans, the amateurs who form the United Arab Emirates team are only just beginning to appreciate the excitement of reaching the World Cup finals for the first time.

"Until we arrived here in Italy and they felt the atmosphere, I don't believe they realised what they had achieved," said the team's Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto Pereira today.

Pereira, a former Brazilian national coach and involved in three previous World Cups, found it hard to convey the excitement to his squad of part-timers — teachers, airport workers, students, policemen and soldiers in day-to-day life — before they flew to Italy.

"It is a kind of experience that you can't transfer to somebody just with words — you have to feel it," Pereira said. "Now they are here they are enjoying it very much."

The average soccer match in the UAE, whose soccer federation is only 19 years old, attracts less than 3,000 spectators, though the national team have played in front of 20,000 fans on big occasions.

But stepping out at Bologna's 38,000-seat Dell'Ara Stadium against Colombia on Saturday will be a new experience for the side.

Pereira will tell his men, who also face West Germany and Yugoslavia in Group D, just to relax and enjoy themselves.

"The other teams will have all the pressure in the world on them when they face us," he said. "We are here to enjoy the competition and I think that is going to help us."

"I don't have a problem as a coach," (West Germany's Franz) Beckenbauer has a problem — he has to beat us not by 1-0 but by five or six goals."

Pereira, who has been coaching in the Gulf for 14 years and is reputed to be earning \$250,000 for his World Cup stint with the UAE, is enjoying the contrast with his days as a Brazilian coach.

"With Brazil you have to win and there is no other way — if you don't they will crucify you," he said.

"With the UAE you don't have to win the World Cup, you just have to play as well as you can."

Pereira does not expect his players to be tempted to try their luck as professionals in the world's bigger leagues after tasting life at the World Cup.

"In the UAE they have a very good life. They live as well as any rich people in Europe and they drive Mercedes cars and BMWs. I can't see any of them being attracted by the daily grind of a club in Europe where you have to get up early every day to go training."

Sheikh Nasser appeals 'End sectarianism'

By Lima Al Khalafawi and Diana Abou Haidar

Arab Times Staff

"THE Interim National Council is an opportunity for Kuwait to discuss and solve its astute problems of sectarianism, tribalism and the stateless," said Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah.

Speaking last night to more than 700 people at the Kuwaiti Teachers Society, Sheikh Nasser stated that if these problems that are hidden because of affluence were not solved, the country will be heading into hard times.

"Any democracy should dissolve loyalties to sects, tribes and anything else except for one's country," said Sheikh Nasser adding that if such loyalties continue they will lead it to civil war. "This loyalty to tribes and sects is a product of the National Assembly."

Sheikh Nasser lamented the methods that are being used by the opposition to convince voters of boycotting the elections describing them as "alien to the (Continued on Page 11)

NEWSWATCH

16 killed in plane crash: A plane with 43 passengers on board crashed in the Amazon region of Brazil yesterday, the news agency Estado said. Sixteen people were killed, according to initial reports.

The news agency said the Fokker plane was flying between Belem, the capital of Para state, and Cuaba, capital of Mato Grosso. It crashed near the town of Altamira in the Amazon. (Reuters)

Kuwait renews support for Palestine: Kuwait has renewed its commitment to continue its support for the Palestinian people in their just struggle to attain their national rights and to back up the Palestinian intifada against the Israeli occupation. (KUNA)

Iraq rejects US demand: Iraq has rejected a US demand for deporting Palestinian leader Mohammed Abbas, who heads a tiny commando faction that claimed an abortive seaborne attack against Israel last week. Arab diplomats said yesterday. (AP)

Tujan was making call: Philippine security forces captured a senior communist guerrilla leader while he was making a phone call in a Manila street-corner store, the military said yesterday.

Antonio Tujan, described by the military as a chief communist recruiter and ranked sixth in the hierarchy of the banned Communist Party, was the fourth guerrilla officer seized by government forces in two months. (Reuters)

Slayer says attack aimed at one: Ami Popper, the suspect in the slaying of seven Arab workers last month, claimed in a published interview yesterday that his target was a single Arab who had molested him eight years ago. (AP)

Olav continues to improve: Norway's 86-year-old King Olav continues to recover from a stroke and his pneumonia is nearly cured, his doctors announced yesterday. (AP)

108,000 drug users arrested: Some 108,000 drug addicts and smugglers have been arrested, 43 tonnes of narcotics hauled and 310 drug rings busted in a country-wide anti-narcotics campaign launched in Iran 18 months ago, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday. (AP)

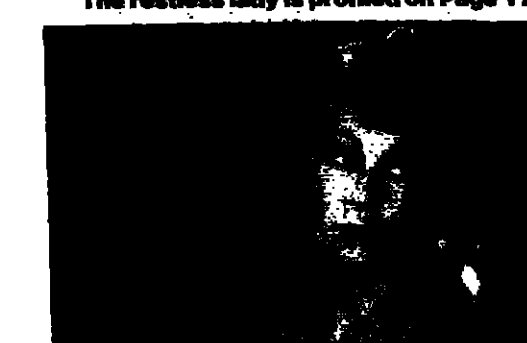
INSIDE



'Shady lady'

Britain's 'shady lady' Helen Mirren is slap bang in the centre of a new controversy over her latest film, Greenway's black comedy 'The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover'.

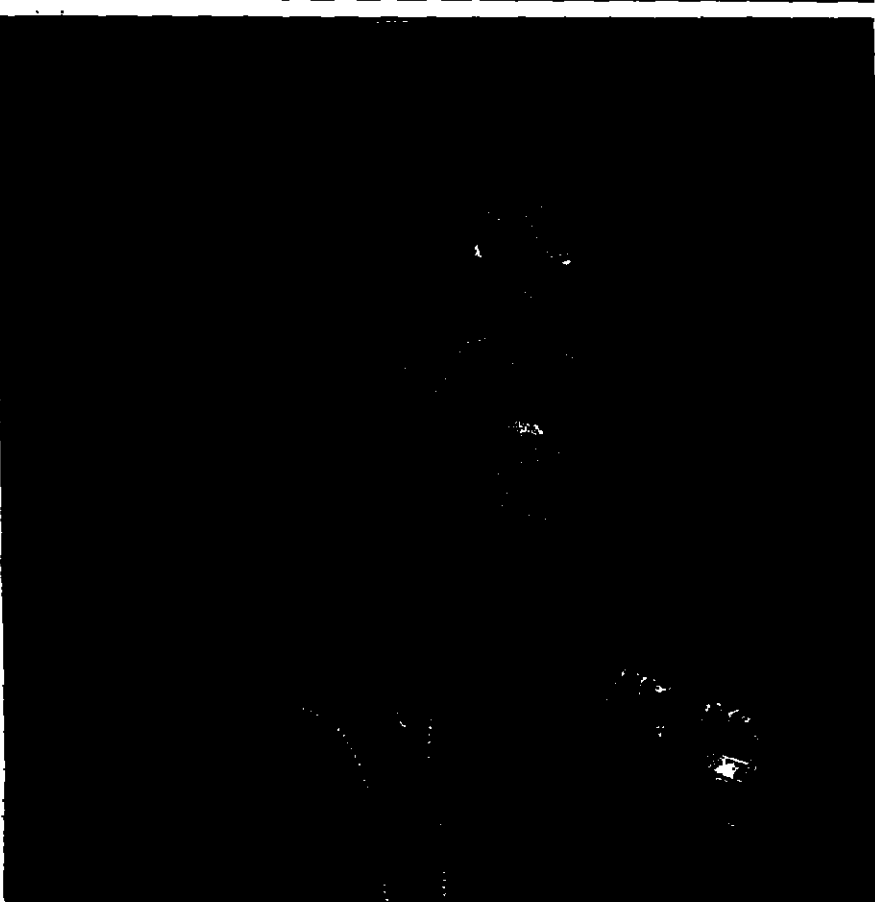
The restless lady is profiled on Page 17



'Golden girl'

Acress Anjelica Huston from the movie 'Enemies, A Love Story'.

"I don't have much patience for people who make themselves victims... I think it's something women talk about to get sympathy," says golden girl Anjelica Huston. (Interview on Page 17)



Jackson suffers chest pains

Pop superstar Michael Jackson experienced a new round of chest pains, delaying the completion of tests designed to pinpoint his health problems, and he will remain hospitalised, his spokesman said.

Despite the apparent complications, the Grammy award-winning singer's condition was described as stable and he was "resting comfortably," spokesman Bob Jones said.

Jackson was admitted to St John's Hospital and Health Centre on Sunday night after experiencing chest pains during a dance-exercise session at his home.

He was to have undergone a battery of tests

on Monday, but his physician, cardiologist Mark Zaksis, reported "a temporary setback in his condition," caused by new chest pains, delayed some scheduled testing, Jones said.

"Michael is a positive person and his spirits are never low," Jones said.

The hospital said Jackson, 31, has received "many flowers and greetings from fans."

The clean-living, lean pop star, who shuns alcohol, cigarettes and junk food, has no history of serious health problems. But Jones said the recent deaths of his maternal grandmother and of entertainer Sammy Davis Jr had put Jackson under some stress.

18 gunned down in Karachi

KARACHI, June 6, (Agencies): Masked gunmen ambushed a bus carrying workers to their jobs today, killing 18 people and injuring 10 in renewed ethnic bloodshed in Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's home province.

The shooting, which shattered five days of relative calm in Pakistan's largest city, occurred shortly before a peace conference of 25 political parties and ethnic groups opened, seeking ways to end the violence in Sind province.

But the Mohajir Qaumi Movement, a party representing Muslim Indian immigrants blamed for the violence, refused to attend.

About two hours before the meeting began, gunmen attacked a bus taking workers to a cement factory about 35 kms (20 miles) outside Karachi, authorities and witnesses said. The factory was owned by an opposition leader in the Senate who was gunned down by snipers two weeks ago, authorities said.

According to witnesses, the gunmen forced the bus to stop, ordered the passengers off and then asked each his nationality. "Those who said they were Mohajir were shot," said one witness.

Provincial Chief Minister Aftab Shahaban Mirani appealed for peace as he opened the conference he convened to find a solution to the ethnic and political violence.

Representatives from 21 of 29 political groups invited attended the meeting.

But absent were two important groups, the MQM and the nationalist Jiyeh Sind movement.

Stone attack on comrades

Soviet unrest toll 40

MOSCOW, June 6, (Reuters): Police fired shots in the air today to disperse students throwing stones at Communist Party leaders in the capital of Soviet Kirghizia, where about 40 people have died in three days of ethnic violence.

The official Tass news agency said the violence spread to the capital, Frunze, with students hurling stones at Medet Sherimkulov, secretary of the republic's Communist Party, who had come to speak to a mass rally.

"To avoid aggravating the situation, the police were forced to fire warning shots in the air," Tass said.

The agency said the students had gathered in the morning to demand more information on the unrest, which broke out on Monday between indigenous Kirghiz and ethnic Uzbeks in the town of Osh. It later spread to other areas in the surrounding valleys.

Tass quoted the republic's Interior Ministry as saying disorder was "planned and organised" but that the situation in the capital was under control.

In Moscow, the Speaker of the Soviet Parliament, Anatoly Lukyanov, told deputies that about 40 people had died and 200 were injured in the disturbances. He said fighting was still raging in Osh.

Army units had been drafted into the area from the neighbouring Republic of Turkmenia by agreement with the Soviet Defence Ministry.

The casualties included 21 policemen, he said, but did not specify whether they were killed or injured.

A spokesman for the Soviet Interior Ministry in Moscow predicted it would take some time to bring the unrest under control.

"This is a mass disorder, a real catastrophe," he said. A resident of Frunze told Reuters by telephone that local authorities had begun evacuating Uzbek students from the city after Kirghiz residents attacked them.

The majority of residents of Osh are Uzbeks and most of the casualties in the fighting in the town were Kirghiz.

"The first reprisals took place this morning in the market," he said. "All Uzbek traders were beaten up and thrown out. Kirghiz students began hunting down and beating up Uzbeks. There were injuries but no deaths."

Kirghiz students attending meetings at various points in the city, he said, were demanding permission to go to Osh to "help our brothers."

Adkins didn't want to put her family through agony, says husband

PORTLAND, Oregon, June 6, (Agencies): The husband of a woman who killed herself on a doctor's "suicide machine" quoted her final statement as saying she didn't want to put her family "through the agony" of Alzheimer's disease.

Janet Adkins, 54, committed suicide on Monday with the assistance of Dr Jack Kevorkian, 62, a retired Royal Oak, Michigan, pathologist who hooked her to a "suicide machine" he treated that injected potassium chloride into her veins.

Adkins' husband Ronald, 57, said yesterday that his wife was a woman who "loved life." He said she was an adventurer who had climbed Mount Hood, travelled to the Himalayas, flown in hot-air balloons and spoke French.

"She was an exciting person," he said. "She loved philosophy, she loved reading good literature, she was a good musician, she played the piano. Really, she loved life to the fullest."

Ronald Adkins, an investment consul-

tant in Portland, said his wife made the decision to kill herself when she learned that she had Alzheimer's.

Prosecutors today weighed criminal charges against Dr Kevorkian who hooked Adkins to a poison-injecting suicide machine that let her take her life with the press of a button.

"Her last words to me were something like, 'thank you, thank you very much,'" Kevorkian said. "I wished her a good trip, and as I leaned over her she seemed like she

was rising to meet me, perhaps to give me a kiss of gratitude."

The 62-year-old suburban Detroit doctor also said the woman told him, "you just make my case known."

As it became known, prosecutors considered whether it was illegal and medical professionals debated whether it was ethical. Prosecutors seized the machine and said they would seek a court order today banning use of the device while the case is considered.

(See also Page 23 A 24)

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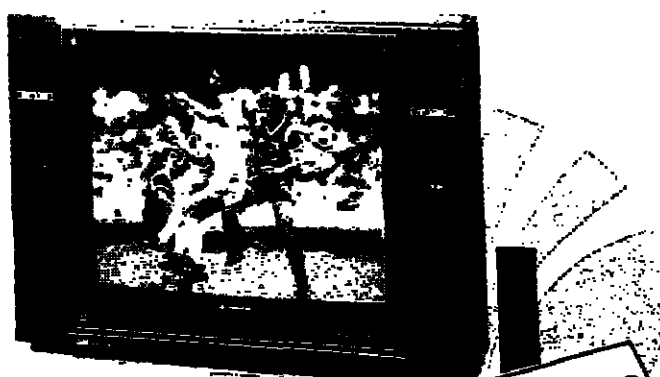
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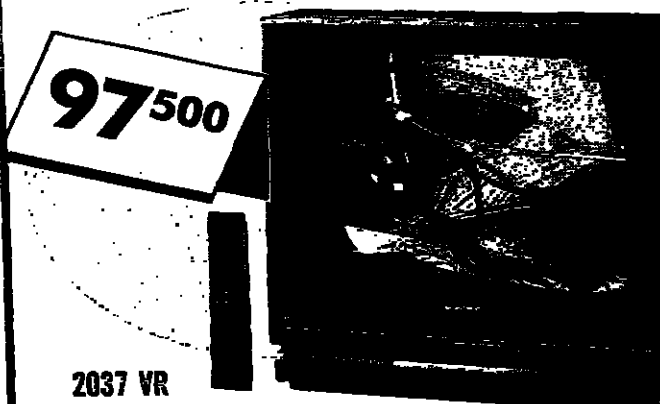
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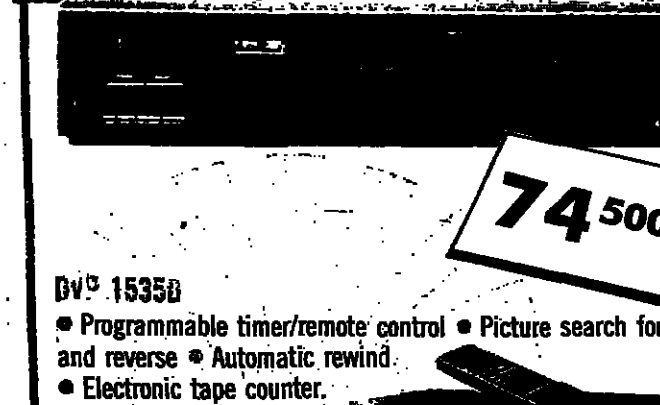
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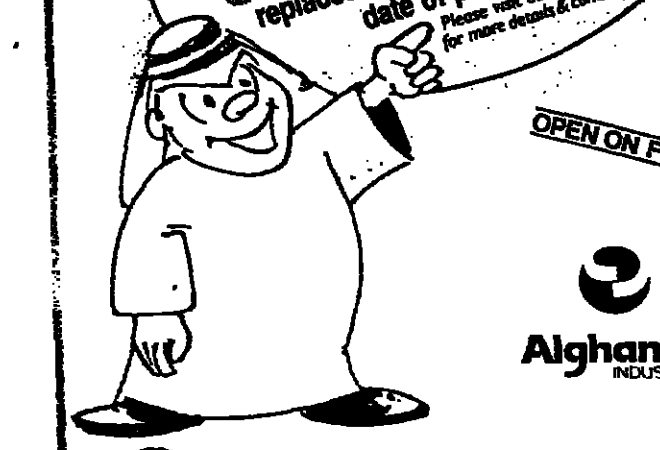
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INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JUNE 7-8, 1990

Mahabharat becomes a national 'obsession'

NEW DELHI, (CSM): Every Sunday morning, just after nine, Rajneesh Sharma tunes in his television for what he calls the "highlight of my week."

Like millions of other Indians, he is transfixed by the "Mahabharat," a TV version of the Hindu epic that has become a national obsession.

"People identify easily with the Mahabharat. They admire the characters and find the questions and issues very honest," says the businessman, who is videotaping the 91-part series.

The Mahabharat, the world's longest poem, has captivated Indians for centuries. The classic, revolving around the epic struggle between two families of hero-kings, has powerful religious and philosophical overtones in this majority Hindu nation.

The latest version has combined the much-loved epic with the expanding medium of television. In the last decade or two, the number of television viewers here has exploded. From just 3 million viewers in 1975, there are almost 130 million today.

In recent years, television has become the entertainment mainstay for many Indian families. TV dramas and situation comedies are nightly fare in millions of households. However, nothing has galvanised viewers like the televised Indian epic. First, there was the "Ramayana," in 1988, a religious and moral tale about the god-king Ram, which mesmerised Indians on Sunday mornings for two years.

Now, the Mahabharat, whose supernatural heroes also suffer from human foibles, is proving even more popular. Every Sunday, according to India Today magazine, about one-eighth of the 800 million Indians thrill to the heroics of the Mahabharat kings.

Normally frenzied cities and towns come to a near-halt as villagers crowd around community televisions and urban families disconnect the telephone to prevent interruptions. An estimated 91 per cent of all Indian TV viewers watch the Mahabharat.

The series has a powerful draw, social observers say, because it combines the glitz and melodrama of Indian films with a contemporary message. Issues such as women's rights, dynastic politics, caste barriers, and family intrigue and conflict over property rights ring true for many here.

"After the Mahabharat is over, it often triggers debates within families," says Raj Rani Sharma, a government employee who is as addicted to the series as her son, Rajneesh. "The show brings out the latent Mahabharat in every family."

The televised Mahabharat also invokes middle-class Indians' nostalgic attachment to history and tradition in the face of growing Westernisation. For the first time, the show has acquainted many young Indians with a part of their culture that they had jettisoned for the modern.

"There is a crisis of modernisation. Indians feel they are leaving behind traditions which have brought stability to their lives," says Romila Thapar, a prominent Indian

historian. "In the Mahabharat, people see a tradition to cling to."

But there is a darker political side, observers say, at a time of growing Hindu fundamentalism and rising tensions with neighbouring Pakistan over the disputed state of Kashmir.

Critics charge the show's producers have taken many liberties with the original to deliver a strong call for Hindu revivalism. To capitalise on the series' clout, the right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party has recruited Mahabharat actors for anti-Pakistan rallies.

By popularising a classic that is a cornerstone of Indian culture, social observers say the televised Mahabharat has achieved universal appeal, even for the poorest of Indians.

"It's a familiar story in which magical things happen," says Thapar, the historian. "If you live a bleak life in dismal surroundings, this transfixes you because unlike your own life, there are actually solutions to many problems."

Positive Pakistan response

Kashmiri militants attack security forces: 3 killed, 36 injured

ISLAMABAD, June 6, (Reuters): Pakistan has decided to respond positively to Indian proposals for reducing the threat of war over Kashmir and will urge New Delhi to open talks, a senior government official said today.

The government will probably announce its official response on Thursday, but it has already told Indian diplomats in Islamabad that it is ready for talks.

"Our attitude is positive. We would like to have a commencement of talks on these proposals, although we have our reservations on the contents because they do not

address the central issue of Kashmir," the official said.

Exactly what the Indian proposals consist of has not been made public.

No decision has been made on a venue for the talks or their diplomatic level, but he said Pakistan would be flexible.

India decided unilaterally last week to withdraw an armoured division poised close to its border with Pakistan and offered a series of other confidence building measures that could lower tension over Kashmir.

Golden Temple sealed for army raid 'versary

AMRITSAR, June 6, (Agencies): India poured police and paramilitary troops into the Sikh holy city Amritsar today to prevent protests on the anniversary of India's invasion of Sikhdom's sacred Golden Temple.

Police detained at least 400 Sikh hardliners in Punjab state and barred thousands of devotees from the temple, where 1,000 people died when troops stormed it to oust separatist militants in "Operation Blue Star" on the night of June 5-6, 1984.

Businessman Harbans Singh, 55, wept as he told reporters outside the Golden Temple. "I have been coming to the temple these many years. There were reasons to stop pilgrims during Operation Blue Star, but I don't see any reason today."

The crackdown in Amritsar, near the Pakistan border, marked a tougher stance by Prime Minister Vishwanath Singh against separatist violence threatening his government in Punjab and in Muslim-majority Kashmir.

Police said they took leaders of the militant All-India Sikh Students' Federation and hardline politicians, including members of parliament, into preventive detention to thwart militant plans to take over the temple for protests.

Witnesses estimated that 4,000 police and paramilitary troops, many armed with automatic weapons, blocked roads into the



Sikh extremists armed with automatic weapons and a traditional sword stand guard over the Golden Temple. (Reuters wirephoto)

city and barred all but a few women, elderly men and conservative religious leaders from the temple complex.

There were no reports of violence as police arrested leaders of the students' federation outside the temple and held back a crowd that at one time grew to about 1,000.

Police sources said authorities had impounded at the road-blocks about 100 vehicles, many of them tractor-trailers bringing villagers to the complex.

"I will take no chances," Amritsar police chief Sanjeev

Gupta told reporters. "We shall allow no political meeting inside the Golden Temple complex."

At least 30 people died in separatist violence in Punjab where police yesterday arrested 500 people in an attempt to thwart a rally on the sixth anniversary of the army assault on the Golden Temple.

Among those arrested was Simranjit Singh Mann, a prominent Sikh leader and the president of a faction of the United Akali Dal Party, and two human right activists.

Security forces remained on alert throughout the northern state, where Sikh separatists have been waging a bloody campaign for a theocratic Sikh state, to prevent possible violence.

Security forces erected road-blocks around Amritsar, with orders to detain buses and passengers who attempt to reach the shrine.

Mann and other arrested leaders were taken to an unknown destination, police said, adding they were expected to be released after the end of the anniversary.

Bombay — a transit for Nigerian drug smugglers

NEW DELHI, June 6, (Kuna): Many Nigerian nationals have established a network of global connections in the drug trade, with Indian port city of Bombay emerging as an important transit point.

The Indian Narcotic Control Bureau personnel have seized 490 kilograms of heroin in Bombay in the last four months, showing increase in drugs-related smuggling.

The authorities in the past two years have arrested over 120 foreigners, who were involved in smuggling of heroin and other narcotic drugs. Of these over 100 were

Nigerians.

The airport authorities have intercepted numerous Nigerians trying to enter India on forged passports and fake visas. Over 260 Nigerians were arrested along in 1989 in this connection. Some of the Nigerians managed to enter India through Bombay more than once even though they were in possession of single entry visa.

The modus operandi, according to narcotic officials, follows no set pattern. A number of Nigerians enter India masquerading as businessmen, who are interested in buying

jewellery, but these traders are often drug carriers.

Many Nigerians are working for professional gangs. These Nigerians adopt a circuitous route such as Bombay, Nairobi, Addis Ababa and Abidjan. Who are careful not to travel to Western countries directly from India as this would arouse suspicions.

The heroin is mainly carried in wax polish tins, false bottom suitcases, false album covers, stuffed dolls and tomato juice tins, some even conceal drugs in their rectum.

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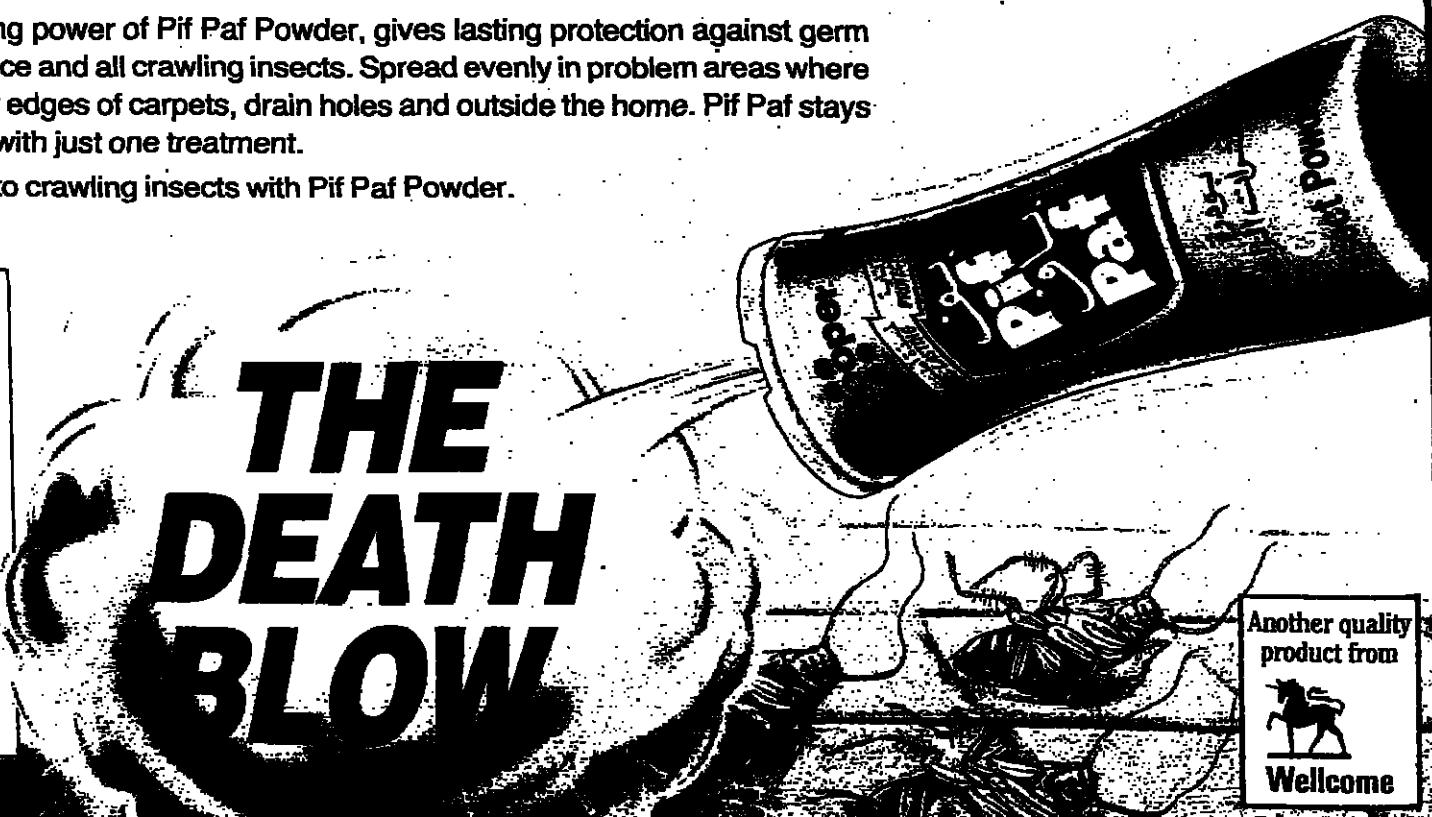
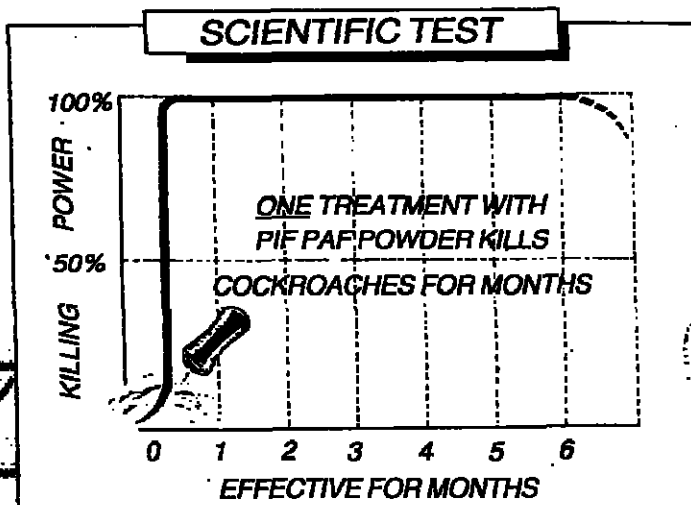
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Cabbage reduces cancer danger

WASHINGTON, June 6, (Reuters)—Researchers said yesterday they found a chemical in cabbage and other vegetables they believe lowers the risk of breast cancer but said it is unlikely drug companies would want to market the chemical because it cannot be patented.

"We have identified the compound in cruciferous vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and cauliflower which appears to act in a way which should be protective," said scientist Leon Bradlow of the Institute for Hormone Research in New York.

Bradlow and colleague Jon Michnovicz, writing in this week's journal of the National Cancer Institute, said they think the chemical, known as indole-3-carbinol, reduces breast cancer risk by speeding up a particular process by which the body metabolises the female hormone oestrogen.

Several previous studies have suggested that people with diets rich in vegetables like cabbage and broccoli have lower cancer rates than the general public.

Action

But Bradlow and Michnovicz are the first to come up with evidence that the protective effect is due to the action of indole-3-carbinol.

Their study found that taking a concentrated dose of the chemical did speed up a particular oestrogen metabolism process in humans.

Furthermore, they have since demonstrated—in a second, as yet unpublished study—that feeding indole-3-carbinol to tumour-prone mice markedly reduced their cancer risk, Bradlow said in a telephone interview.

Back

But further study is needed before it can be learned whether the chemical will work the same way in humans. Dr. Christopher Longcope of the University of Massachusetts Medical School said in an editorial in the same issue of the NCI journal.

"To prove the effect in women would take a three-to-five year study and 'we would love to do it if we could get the funding,'" Bradlow told Reuters.

The researchers pursued the project because they speculated that women would balk at being told by their doctors to eat a round of cabbage a day but might be willing to take pills containing the concentrated chemical.

"I suspect that drug companies would not be interested in marketing the chemical because a patent could not be obtained on it," Bradlow said.

Foretich won't give up fight to visit daughter

FALLS CHURCH, Virginia, June 6, (AP)—A man whose former wife went to prison rather than allow him to visit his daughter said yesterday he has not stopped fighting to see the child, who now lives in New Zealand with her mother.

"I just feel it's better for her that I don't engage in a full-blown court battle," Dr. Eric Foretich said of his 7-year-old daughter Hilary. "Let the immigration officials in New Zealand decide."

The case is proceeding in the family court, Foretich's New Zealand attorney Rodney Hansen,

told the New Zealand Press Association last night. NZPA earlier quoted Foretich as saying he was giving up his battle and was resigning himself to Hilary living in New Zealand with her mother, Elizabeth Morgan.

Morgan, a plastic surgeon, hid Hilary in New Zealand to evade a Washington judge's 1987 order allowing continued visits by her father.

Morgan was imprisoned for 25 months for defying the order.

Bone marrow transplant can cure breast cancer

TOKYO, June 6, (Reuters)—Doctors are finding that some forms of advanced breast cancer may be beaten with a new technique involving temporary removal of the patient's bone marrow and massive doses of chemotherapy.

Breast cancer, among the most common forms of cancer afflicting women, can be cured about 50 per cent of the time with surgery, radiation or chemotherapy. But when these fail cancer spreads and can kill, on average within two years.

Doctors have been unable to attack

spreading cancer with more powerful drugs for fear of damaging other body organs, especially the sensitive bone marrow which generates blood cells and maintains the immune system.

The new technique seeks to circumvent this risk by extracting, deep freezing and later replacing a patient's own bone marrow.

A new review of clinical results of the treatment indicates that it could offer hope to the most seriously ill patients.

The data are encouraging, but we won't know for several more years

whether this is a cure," Karen Antman, an associate professor at Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and author of the review, said in an interview in Tokyo.

Antman presented her findings at an international symposium on drug resistance in cancer chemotherapy held recently in Tokyo. Her survey is being submitted to the Journal of Clinical Oncology, a scholarly publication on the study of tumours.

The data, from 13 centres in the United States, Japan and Europe, was

drawn from 258 women who had already received standard therapy for breast cancer which had spread from its original site.

With the new treatment 58 per cent achieved a complete response, meaning cancer could not be immediately detected. Thirty-two per cent had no evidence of recurrences during follow-up intervals of 12 to 42 months.

"I think this shows that high doses of anti-cancer drugs coupled with autologous bone marrow transplantation (using the patient's own marrow

instead of a donor's) can be a very effective form of treatment," Antman said.

More than 20 centres have started using the technique and the number is growing, but it is still too specialised to be adopted more broadly.

"It needs to be done in special centres with good infectious disease departments, good blood banks and dedicated units," she said, adding that the procedure costs from \$60,000 to \$125,000.

Antman said that she had to

intervene on behalf of patients with American insurance companies, but that in nearly all cases insurers eventually paid.

Bone marrow transplantation has been used for decades to combat leukaemia and other blood cancers. But its use for advanced breast cancers, for which standard dose chemotherapies are ineffective, only began in 1983.

It has risks — an average nine per cent of all patients do not survive the procedure — but is a good gamble for those whose prognosis is grim.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

US mag labels Trump, Khashoggi Cheapest 'zillionaires'



Donald Trump

cheques of \$1.11 to 58 well-known, wealthy people.

Twenty-six people — including Khashoggi, Trump, hotel owner Harry Helmsley, actors Cher, Michael Douglas, Shirley Maclaine and author Kurt Vonnegut — cashed the cheque.

The magazine went back to the people who cashed the cheque, then sent each one a 64-cent cheque to cover a "computer error." Thirteen people cashed these, including Trump and Khashoggi, prompting a showdown for the title.

(See also Page 13)

SAVANNAH, Georgia: Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. the nation's largest producer of business jets is developing a device to reduce jet engine noise on commercial airlines, the company's chairman said Tuesday.

Allen E. Parsons said he has filed for a patent on the device which he said will "extend the life of planes, cut the operating costs and help meet government regulations."

He said it could be in production within two years. (AP)

ANKARA: Three more babies are on the way to a family of 44 in eastern Turkey, but the proud father, who earlier broke a promise to the Turkish First Lady that he would stop, has again sworn that enough is enough, a family planning group said Tuesday.

Mehmet Sirin, of the village Kizilgac some 500 miles (800 km) east of Ankara, recently confessed to family planning officials that three of his four wives were again pregnant.

Sirin, who already support a family of 44 children, is bracing for the new comers, but told family planning officials "these last three might just be enough." (UPI)

MARKLEYSBURG, Pennsylvania: Shaken residents of this tiny mountain hamlet wept Tuesday near a charred patch of ground outside the town hall where four men, including a father and two sons, were electrocuted while moving a flag pole.

The four men, two of whom served on the town council that met Monday night, died when the 38-foot (11.6 metre) pole they were holding fell against high-voltage power lines.

Killed Monday were Borough council president Robert Friend 59, his sons Randall Scott Friend 23, and Robert Friend II, 22, and councilman Keith Cuppert 35, all of Markleysburg, said state trooper Richard Veil. (AP)

EVANSTON, Illinois: The heads of 1,000 major American companies and the presidents of 1,200 US universities, asked to name the book that most affected their lives, most often singled out the Bible, according to a survey released on Tuesday.

Twenty-five per cent of those questioned cited the Bible, four per cent named Charles Dickens "A Tale of Two Cities" and two per cent mentioned the Book of Mormon, the poll said. Other than those three no book was mentioned twice. (Reuters)

LONDON, Queen Elizabeth is finally showing her age on a new banknote which portrays Britain's 64-year-old monarch with a double chin, wrinkles and slight bags under her eyes.

"It makes me look so old," the tabloid Sun newspaper on Wednesday quoted the queen as telling artist Roger Whittington, who designed the new note.

"But then I suppose I am old."

The Bank of England insisted the queen had aged gracefully on the turquoise note, whose portrait updates the one on the old blue five-pound (\$8) note and other denominations by 25 years.

The monarch's profile on coins and stamps also dates from the 1950s. (Reuters)

PINE BLUFF, Arkansas: Tim Newton did more than show off his fiancée at his 10-year high school reunion. He married her.

Newton told a friend at the weekend gathering of 1980 Star City high school graduates that he and Tracy Byford had their wedding rings and marriage license. He joked that if a minister were present they'd tie the knot.

Then the friend revealed that he was an ordained minister. That was all it took, said the new Mrs Newton, 20.

"Everybody just kept on going, 'I all ought to get married,'" she said. (AP)

NIAGARA FALLS, Ontario: A US stuntman is missing after going over the Niagara Falls in a kayak, Canadian police said.

A red kayak belonging to the 28-year-old man from Tennessee was recovered below Horseshoe Falls on the Canadian side, "all in one piece," said Maureen Quinn, a constable with the Niagara parks police. But she said authorities "found nothing else, just the kayak. Nobody's been found." (AP)

CHICAGO: Earrings may be fine on pirates and punk-rockers but not on a rural town's policemen, an appellate court ruled.

The 7th US Court of Appeals ruled Monday that peonage patrolmen Gary Zybak and Marvin Rathert cannot wear their ear studs — even when off duty.

"I really shouldn't comment about the appellate court ruling without talking to my attorney but one thing is certain — I'm not quitting the force or leaving peonage," Zybak said Monday night in a telephone interview. (AP)



Suicide device

A 54-year-old woman suffering from Alzheimer's disease killed herself on Monday with a device invented by a retired doctor who watched as she made the fatal injection, police said.

The doctor, Jack Kevorkian (shown above), of Royal Oak, Michigan, then called police. Janet Adkins, of Portland, Oregon, died about five or six minutes after she pushed a button on the device, which injected a lethal combination of drugs into her system, Kevorkian told the Detroit News.

"She told me she wanted to take her life while she was still clear in her mind and knew what she was

doing," Kevorkian said. He was not available for further comment.

He said the suicide occurred in a van in suburban Detroit when he connected Adkins to a cardiograph machine and the suicide device. The apparatus works intravenously, using thiopental to induce a coma and potassium chloride to stop the heart, he said.

"This is a new one for all of us," said Sergeant David Haire, an investigating officer with Michigan state police. "We considered it a medically-assisted suicide." (Reuters wirephoto)

Detect Alzheimer's disease

Post-mortem tests

CHICAGO, June 6, (Reuters)—A new post-mortem test on brain tissue can clearly confirm an indicator of Alzheimer's disease and may help scientists better understand the malady, researchers said yesterday.

The test, developed by Abbott Laboratories, can detect the presence of a protein associated with the disease in more than 85 per cent of cases.

The researchers, who work for Abbott, published their findings in the current issue of the journal of the American Medical Association.

Until now the disease has been most usually confirmed by brain tissue samples after death that show characteristic fibrous knots and tangles.

The new test may help scientists recognise changes in the brain before those tangles are formed, thus furthering knowledge of the incurable disease, the researchers said.

Alzheimer's disease gradually erases the memory, leaving victims confused and eventually unable to perform even the basic tasks.

Cancer linked to high fat

WASHINGTON, June 6, (UPI)—A study of 3,500 Chinese and Chinese-Americans supports the suspicion that dietary fat and lack of exercise may boost the risk of colorectal cancer, researchers said.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States, killing more than 60,000 people each year.

"Because colorectal cancer is such a high-impact disease and because therapy has resulted in limited success, more attention needs to be directed toward identifying its (causes)," said the University of Hawaii's Abraham Nomura, in an editorial accompanying the study published in the journal of the National Cancer Institute.

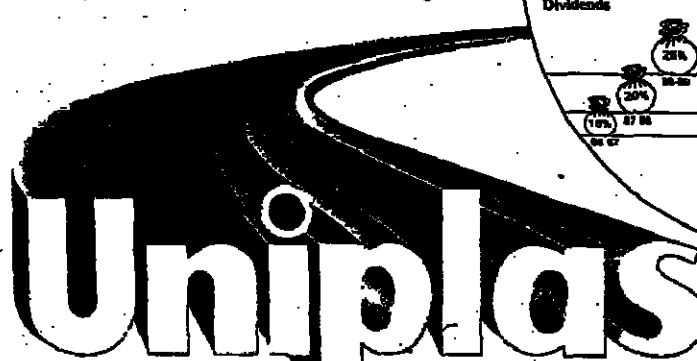
Nomura called the sweeping look at diet, physical activity and colorectal cancer rates among Chinese living in North America and China "a timely and significant contribution toward this goal."

Statistics show colorectal cancer is four to seven times greater among Chinese living in the United States than for Chinese living in the People's Republic of China — suggesting the typical US lifestyle may increase the chance of developing such cancer, researchers said.

To find out what elements of "western living" may boost the risk of colorectal cancer, an international research team examined past life-style behaviours of about 1,700 residents of the People's Republic of China and about 1,800 Chinese immigrants living in the Los Angeles, San Francisco and Vancouver, Canada, areas. About 900 of the people studied had colorectal cancer, and the remaining subjects were healthy.

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Depreciation	10
Prov. for Tax	12
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Wreckage inspection

A fireman looks at the wreckage of a glider cockpit on Tuesday after the glider collided with a US Air Force F-16D jet fighter. The glider pilot died on the collision while the jet sustained minor damage and returned to Hahn Air Base. (Reuter wirephoto)

Bush, Barco in farewell talks

Focus on drug war, aid

WASHINGTON, June 6 (UPI): President Bush and outgoing Colombian President Virgilio Barco had a farewell meeting at the White House yesterday where they reviewed their mixed success in the war against South American cocaine cartels.

Barco, who escalated the battle last year with the backing of the United States, also again urged Bush to help drug-ravaged Colombia bolster its trade so that it will be in a better financial position to carry on the struggle.

"We talked about the co-operation that Colombia needs," Barco, who leaves office Aug. 7, said following an Oval Office meeting with the president.

A chief goal of Barco is to obtain a new international coffee agreement, as well as more favourable trade conditions. Last year's collapse of world coffee prices has already cost the Colombian economy more than \$500 million.

White House deputy press secretary Bill Harlow said Bush and Barco, during their 40-minute talk, discussed negotiations involving the international General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Harlow said Bush made no commitment other than to tell Barco the United States "is working on ways to provide Colombia" with favourable treatment.

Barco told Bush that his suc-

cessor, President-elect Cesar Gaviria Trujillo, "would continue the drug fight," Harlow said.

Gaviria, a one-time economist elected president on May 27, has proposed no concessions in his nation's war with drug traffickers. Like Barco, he supports the extradition to the United States of suspected Colombian drug kingpins.

Bush and Barco briefly examined the state of the drug war since a Feb 15 narcotic summit in Cartagena, Colombia, that produced a joint drug-fighting agreement between the United States, Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

On the law enforcement side, authorities in Colombia last month confiscated record amounts of cocaine. And in Bolivia, due to the crackdown, the price of coca, the crop used to make the drug, has dropped dramatically.

But violence has raged on with numerous drug-related assassinations. And dozens of ranches and estates seized last fall from traffickers have been returned due to Colombian judges finding no legal reason to hold them.

Representative Charles Rangel, Democrat of New York, chairman of the house select committee on narcotics abuse and control, said in a statement: "If we want to see this battle continue and ultimately won, we will have to give more than moral support for courage."

Suspected guerrilla kills deputy

Rebels black out Lima, 3 hurt in bomb blast

LIMA, June 6 (Reuter): Maoist guerrillas exploded a car bomb last night in central Lima, injuring three people, and briefly plunged the city into darkness by downing power pylons five days before Peru's presidential elections.

The Maoist Shining Path rebels blew up power pylons in three outlying districts, casting the city of seven million people into darkness for about 15 minutes, police said.

During the blackout, a car bomb ripped across a street in central Lima a few blocks from the presidential palace, wounding three people and damaging nearby buildings, police said.

The attacks appeared to be Shining Path's response to President Alan Garcia's statement on Monday that police had smashed the group's operations in Lima by seizing five houses used as hideouts and capturing 35 alleged rebels.

The elections on Sunday have been preceded by feverish

speculation in the US dollar as Peruvians rushed to buy the currency as a hedge against uncertainty before the voting.

The inti, the local currency, tumbled 10 per cent yesterday, on the unofficial market to 61,590 to the dollar after presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori said he would create a new currency pegged to the dollar if elected.

The drop brought the currency's slide to 43 per cent in the past three weeks.

Fujimori, the son of Japanese immigrants, said in a television debate with his centre-right rival Mario Vargas Llosa on Sunday that he would abolish the inti and invent a new currency on par with the dollar.

Exchange houses were packed and people pushed and shoved to turn their salaries into dollars with sidewalk money changers in central Lima.

Police said the parliamentarian died instantly, while the gunman fled on foot.

Professor claims solving 'Piltdown Man' mystery

NEW YORK, June 6 (AP): A professor says he has solved the mystery of who perpetrated the 1912 "Piltdown Man" fraud that rocked the scientific community and provided fodder for a decades-long controversy.

Dr Frank Spencer, anthropology professor at Queens College, said yesterday that the names of many prominent scientists, and even mystery writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, had been mentioned as "suspects" through the years.

But his research, bolstered by that of Australian historian Dr Ian Langham, points the finger at Sir Arthur Keith, a well-respected anatomist and conservator of the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons.

Spencer lays out the premise for the fraud in two new books to be published this fall by Oxford University Press.

Piltdown, a small village in England, made international news in 1912 when a skull and jaw of what became known as the "Piltdown Man" were discovered in a gravel pit.

"It was sensational because it offered a completely different view of evolution at the time," Spencer said.

But in 1953 the discovery was completely debunked when it was learned the remains were actually a human skull — only a couple of hundred years old — with an orangutan's jaw fused to it.

Still, the larger question of whodunit remained. Suspicion immediately fell on Charles Dawson, the country lawyer who made the discovery, but the scientific community believed someone else had to be involved.

The names of scientist William J. Sollas, philoso-

pher Pierre Teilhard de Chardin and even Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes who lived nearby, kept coming up. But there was never any proof and often no motive.

"The general feeling was that Piltdown was contrived to bring somebody down, make someone in the scientific community look silly," Spencer said. But that theory didn't work because "if that was the case, why didn't anyone ever do that?"

Spencer said once he began looking at the evidence with the viewpoint that Dawson's co-conspirator was someone who had something to gain intellectually, not monetarily. He began to look at Keith.

But his search for documents collided with the efforts of Langham, a professor at the University of Sydney in Australia, and Spencer said he "backed

off" and allowed Langham to continue his research alone.

When Langham died in 1984 without concluding his research, Spencer said Langham's widow asked him to continue her husband's work.

He said the turning point was entries in Keith's diary "in which he indicates he had information about the site and events at Piltdown ... which he wouldn't have had unless he was an inside member of the group. This was really the crux of the thing."

Spencer said he and Langham also uncovered the fact that Keith, a scientist who backed the theory of evolution that came out of Piltdown, had met with Dawson a year before the discovery and again, just several months before.

Though Spencer believes he and Langham have cracked the Piltdown mystery, doubting Thomases still abound.

Canadian leaders closer to progress

OTTAWA, June 6 (Reuter): Canada's leaders emerged from a 13-hour meeting yesterday expressing confidence they were closing in on a solution to a constitutional crisis that threatens the country's unity.

"I've switched from my pessimism to thinking there is a chance," said Premier Don Getty of the western province of Alberta.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said he and the 10 provincial premiers had not struck any firm agreements but achieved more progress by the end of the third day of talks.

The source of the politicians' optimism appeared to be a preliminary agreement on senate reform. The issue has been a major stumbling block to passage of the Meech Lake constitutional accord.

The accord recognises Quebec's status as a distinct society within Canada, and its ratification by the June 23 deadline is essential to check a growing separatist movement in the discontented French-speaking province.

"No doubt the climate is much improved over yesterday," Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa said as he emerged from the meeting.

Bourassa said he felt the two staunchest opponents of the accord, Premiers Gary Filmon of Manitoba and Clyde Wells of Newfoundland, appeared slightly more flexible.

"I don't say Mr. Wells and Mr. Filmon have accepted that Meech Lake must be ratified by June 23, but I feel in their attitude more openness than I felt yesterday," he said.

Filmon said he was glad that all the disputed issues had finally been put on the table. He complained previously that some of his province's concerns had not come up in the talks that began on Sunday night.

"Today they were dealing with all of the issues on the agenda. We're doing the work we should be doing," he said.

There was speculation that Mulroney, the author of the 1987 Meech Lake accord, as crafting a package of proposals that would allow the recalcitrant premiers to approve the accord without losing face in their home provinces.

Bourassa, under pressure from Quebec's nationalists, held to his line that the Meech Lake accord must be ratified as it stands. But he said he recognised that the Senate must be reformed and he was willing to consider changes in another round of talks.

The outlying provinces want to transform the Senate from a body of politicians appointed by the prime minister into an elected chamber along the lines of the US Senate in order to offset the power of the populous central provinces Quebec and Ontario, in the elected House of Commons.

Published reports said the preliminary agreement on Senate reform would set up a commission to study the matter and also would guarantee a rise in the representation of the less populous provinces.

Although the issue of Senate reform was one of Wells' concerns, he stressed again on Thursday that the premiers still had a way to go to reach an agreement on Meech Lake.

"We're not there yet," he said. The accord, which would include Quebec in the 1982 constitution, was struck three years ago and approved unanimously by Mulroney and the ten-ruling premiers.

Kids face greater risk from pollution

40,000 die daily under 5-years of age: Unicef

LONDON, June 6 (AP): Children face far greater risks from global pollution than adults, according to a United Nations report released yesterday.

"Children are too often the victims of pollution — their young bodies make them far more vulnerable than adults to the poisons we spew into the air, and toxins we sow on earth," said the Unicef report, "Children and the environment."

Launched on World Environment Day, the report, compiled in association with the United Nations Environment Programme, listed

many of the ills facing children in developing and developed countries alike.

■ Forty thousand children under five years of age die daily.

■ Some 100 million children live on the streets, where they are forced to scavenge, steal and often fall prey to drugs, prostitution and gangs.

■ An increasing number of children are Aids orphans, whose parents have died from Aids.

■ The number of children living in poverty in the United States has risen by more than three million over the last 10 years.



US navy marks D-Day 'versary

US warships steamed toward Normandy Tuesday, reliving the D-Day invasion route on the eve of the 46th anniversary of the Allied attack with a display of US martial prowess.

The events are part of celebrations to mark the birth centenary of Dwight D. Eisenhower, the supreme allied commander in Europe who masterminded the opening of a Western European front during World War II.

His namesake nuclear-powered aircraft carrier cruised across the English Channel toward the French coastal region of Normandy, where ceremonies are planned on Wednesday to honour those who fell in battle.

It encountered none of the obstacles that faced the 5,000-vessel invasion flotilla, which departed from British ports on June 5, 1944, bearing nearly 200,000 men through pounding seas to meet German adversaries in a battle from which many did not return.

Above: Eisenhower's son John Eisenhower shows off a framed photograph of his father given to him by the men of USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. (Reuter wire-photo)

America

Cuomo running for re-election: Gov. Mario Cuomo, often mentioned as a potential 1992 presidential contender, is running for re-election again with his party's unanimous support for a third, four-year term.

Although he wasn't at the state democratic convention when he gained the nomination by acclamation, he appeared Monday night at a reception put on by his campaign committee.

"The ideas, the emphasis, the commitment that brought us this far are the ideas, the emphasis and the commitment that will carry us the rest of the way, no matter how far that is," said Cuomo, 57.

At a subsequent news conference, Cuomo said the campaign's overriding issue would be "the future. What do you do about the 21st century and how do you get us there? Who has the capacity to get us there?" (AP)

Barry may call campaign manager: Marion Barry's lawyers said Tuesday they may call his campaign manager and an indicted former city official as defence witnesses at the mayor's drug and perjury trial.

Letelier probe request rejected: Chile's

supreme court on Tuesday rejected a request for an inquiry into the 1976 assassination of a former Chilean diplomat in Washington.

The court ruled that it had no jurisdiction to appoint a special investigative judge to look into the killing of socialist leader Orlando Letelier, considered the worst act of foreign terrorism in the US capital.

The investigation was requested by Letelier's family, who believe former military ruler General Augusto Pinochet's secret police were ordered to kill Letelier, the influential former Chilean Ambassador to the United States. (Reuter)

Amnesty say probes ineffective:

Amnesty International criticised Latin American governments on Tuesday for their poor handling of investigations into attacks on human rights defenders.

In a letter to the Organisation of American States meeting here, the London-based group said: "Amnesty International ... advises that the investigations undertaken have been slow and inefficient and almost invariably came up with no concrete results." (Reuter)

Ecuadorian rebels pledge:

The main left-wing guerrilla group in Ecuador announced on Tuesday it would disarm and enter civilian life as the nation's 16th political party.

Pedro Moncada, leader of the Alfaro Vive Carajo (AVC) guerrillas, told reporters the group would hand over its arms "as soon as possible" after talks with the government.

In July "after the World Cup (soccer championships) we will begin a campaign of affiliations to petition for our legal registration as a political party," Moncada said at a news conference. (Reuter)

University occupation, ends:

The government returned the national university campus to its civilian administrators Tuesday, ending a military occupation that began in November when a rebel offensive turned the area into a battleground.

"We turn over the campus confident that its authorities will know how to take care of our future generations," Education Minister Rene Hernandez Valiente said during a brief ceremony on university grounds. (UPI)

Review fired Sandinistas:

The government agreed Tuesday to review the cases of hundreds of Sandinista workers who have been fired since President Violeta Chamorro took office, allegedly because of their political affiliations.

"The Labour Ministry is calling for all those workers fired after April 25, in violation of the work codes, to apply for review to their respective departments, after which their individual situations will be dealt with according to the law," a ministry statement said Tuesday. (UPI)

Brazilian union leader shot:

A Brazilian trade union leader who campaigned on behalf of landless labourers has been shot dead in the Amazon area, his union said on Tuesday.

Sebastiao Francisco Da Silva, 51, was shot on Saturday night in the town of Santa Fe in Para state. He was a director of the union of rural workers of Maraba, one of the biggest towns in Para. (Reuter)

Spanish family sues US:

The family of a Spanish news photographer killed during the US invasion of Panama December 21 has sued the US government for \$1 million.

The photographer, Juanito Rodriguez, was shot dead while he was photographing action in front of the Marriott Hotel in Panama City. He was on assignment from the Madrid newspaper El Pais.

The parents of Rodriguez said that US soldiers shot their son and the Spanish government asked the US government for an explanation of the circumstances. (UPI)

Andean villages evacuated:

Gas spewing from a volcano forced the evacuation of 1,500 from six towns in southeastern Peruvian Andes, a civil defence official said Tuesday.

Changon museum speaks volumes about the culture of violence that Medellin is famous for

MEDELLIN, June 6 (Reuter): It isn't much to look at — it isn't even open to the general public — but a small museum here speaks volumes about the culture of violence for which Medellin is notorious.

The museum, known as the Changon, is located inside the heavily-guarded headquarters of the Colombian army's 4th brigade in the centre of Medellin.

It is dedicated to the city's so-called Sicarios, young assassins enlisted in Medellin's teeming slums to kill on behalf of drug barons.

Portraits hanging in the museum include that of a

baby-faced 14-year-old who was convicted of killing 18 people during his short-lived career as a hit-man.

"Sicarios are the true children of drug traffickers," said an army officer, who provided Reuters with a guided tour of the museum.

"They are the children," he explained, "because they are pulled out of extreme poverty when they're as little as six or seven years old and brought up by the lieutenants or underlings of drug lords and taught to kill."

Weapons on display at the Changon — a corruption of the English word shotgun — include a vast

array of sawn-off shotguns, pistols and semi-automatic weapons, most of them homemade.

For silent killings, there was an ice pick-like device disguised as a riding crop and a crossbow piston with a telescopic sight.

Sicarios have been blamed for the killings of presidential candidates, an attorney general, a newspaper publisher and senior army and police officials among other prominent Colombians.

The Sicarios have also been blamed for killing more than 60 policemen in Medellin since April as part of a drug-related terror campaign.

Medellin residents say many Sicarios work on a freelance basis and will kill for as little as \$45.

"There are neighbourhoods, like the Comuna Nororiental, where there are plenty of these guys around," a local taxi driver said of a sprawling slum on the northeastern outskirts of the city.

"I don't recommend you go there but if I take you if you want," he said. "Life is cheap, life is worth nothing here."

There are reports — impossible to confirm — that on a big contract some Sicarios will carry out a practice killing to test their mettle.



Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Salinas calls for 'clean' growth

MEXICO CITY, June 6 (UPI): President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, opening World Environment Day celebrations in the metropolis regarded as the world's most polluted, said yesterday "clean development" and global political action are the keys to solving environmental degradation.

"We won't slow down our growth, but we won't tolerate polluting industries to operate indefinitely," Salinas said.

"We need clean and not dirty development," Salinas told world leaders and environmentalists gathered in Mexico, the site chosen by the United Nations to host the 1990 World Environment Day.

"With global military spending, in one day we could reforest the world as never before in history," Salinas said. "We have reached the time for action."

A mass planting of trees was conducted in recognition of the World Environment Day, and officials predicted more than 1 million would be planted in Mexico by day's end. Tree planting ceremonies also were planned at Mexican embassies around the world.

Events for this year's World Environment Day, which carries the theme "a better planet for children," included an annual state of the environment report and numerous seminars and workshops, the organising committee said.

Homero Aridjis of Mexico's group of 100 conservationist organisations said his greatest concern for Mexico City is air pollution.

"The ozone levels in Mexico City in one hour are double or triple what we should have in a year," Aridjis said.

Mexico City is known as the world's most polluted metropolitan area, with 2.5 million vehicles producing an estimated 80 per cent of the smog that darkens city skies most days.

Recent efforts by Mexico to counter the problems of air pollution include vehicle emissions controls and a programme requiring motorists to keep their cars off the road one day a week.

Salinas announced a five-point programme for environmental clean-up in Mexico.

The programme includes the distribution of unleaded gasoline in Mexico by the end of the year, the cleaning and rational use of water, strict anti-pollution measures for industry, massive reforestation and conservation of fauna and flora.

On May 28, the government banned the killing of sea turtles. Environmental groups hailed the action as a first step toward ending what has been the largest killing of an endangered species in the world.

Feminists want male curfew to stop rapes

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, June 6, (Reuters): Feminists have reacted angrily to police advice that they should stay home at night after a spate of brutal rapes shattered New Zealand's reputation as a peaceful society.

Instead they now want a curfew to be imposed on men.

"Our sex shouldn't be punished for what men are doing," said Maria MacMillan, an activist in the north island town of Hamilton.

Men should be allowed out after a certain time at night only if accompanied by a woman. "It would be a nice turnaround of the tables because women have for so long had to go out with men to be safe on the streets," she said.

"Men should stay at home at night. In the past it has always been women who stay at home."

The streets of New Zealand towns and cities are still relatively safe by

international standards. But the brutality and frequency of recent rapes, particularly in Auckland, New Zealand's biggest city, have shocked the public.

Police advised women not to go out alone at night and to secure their homes after a pregnant south Auckland woman was raped repeatedly by two men who entered her home through an open window on May 5.

The same night a woman in central

Auckland was dragged into an alley by a man who attempted to rape her, while a woman in Christchurch who had been waiting for a taxi, was raped and beaten in an hour-long ordeal.

Days earlier another Auckland woman was brutally beaten in a rape attempt in a city centre car park.

Police figures show that reported sexual assaults on women jumped to 2,033 in 1989 from 1,359 in 1985.

MacMillan said the idea of a curfew

for men who mooted 25 years ago by the world's first woman prime minister, Israel's Golda Meir, after a series of rapes in Tel Aviv.

But chief inspector Dave Smith said the police advice was realistic. "Some of the sanctions some women are advocating, that violence by men be eradicated and curfews imposed, are totally unrealistic."

Police agree teen-age women hitchhikers have the right to accept riders

from strangers and not to be molested. But it is unwise to do so."

Women's Affairs Minister Margaret Shields told Reuters the police advice was sensible.

"I don't think the problem can ever be solved simply by locking people up," she said.

Asked if violence against women was increasing, she said: "I don't think we have any figures that can suggest that."

EEC row over mad cow beef

UK threatens retaliation

BRUSSELS, June 6, (Reuters): The European Economic Community farm ministers have a showdown meeting today over 'mad cow' disease in Britain, an ailment that has prompted France and West Germany to ban imports of British beef despite London's protestations that it is safe.

Community farm commissioner Ray MacSharry yesterday pledged he would take France and West Germany to court if necessary over their ban on British beef imports.

The two countries imposed their ban last week, saying they were worried the 'mad cow' disease afflicting British herds might spread to humans.

British scientists say cows caught the disease, bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE), because they were given food made of rendered-down carcases of sheep that had a similar disease, scrapie.

Britain has protested that the import bans are a dishonest way for Bonn and Paris to protect their own falling markets, and the EEC has told both countries to lift the ban.

Britain is prepared to retaliate if import restrictions are not lifted, Agriculture Minister John Gummer was quoted as saying today.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper said Gummer told a private meeting of British politicians yesterday he was prepared to impose retaliatory import bans.

The Daily Mirror newspaper said Gummer would target soft cheese and eggs, themselves the subject of hysteria and salmonella poisoning scares, for any trade reprisals.

Nearly 14,000 British cows have been slaughtered since 1988 after showing symptoms of the disease.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said yesterday that the French and West German bans on British beef are "quite illegal" and she insisted there was no health danger.

"British beef is safe," the prime minister said during question time in the House of Commons.

"Those who have banned it have done so more as a measure of protection for their own farmers."

Conservative Party lawmaker



Our beef's the best: Thatcher

John Watts said it would be improper for Britain to respond in kind, but he urged British consumers to use their purchasing power to boycott French goods, including "appalling French golden delicious apples."

Another Tory, Alan Amos, was cheered when he said he had eaten British beef for lunch and medical evidence showed it was "perfectly safe."

The EEC farm ministers, who will hold one-day crisis talks on the issue, will hear the latest evidence on the disease from the EEC veterinary committee which meets earlier in the day.

MacSharry told a news conference that he and his fellow commissioners would also meet to discuss the issues.

"We hope with the combination of all three that we will resolve the issues. If we don't, the legal measures that are open will be taken," he said. This could involve taking France and West Germany to the European Court of Justice.

Acting on previous advice from the veterinary committee, the EEC has stopped exports of live calves over six months old from Britain, and requires meat to be separated from offal and other tissue that might be a potential transmitter of the disease.

"I say quite clearly...that arising from the action we have taken in the community and in member states, that beef is safe," MacSharry said.

KGB officer defects to US

BRUSSELS, June 6, (UPI): A young officer of the Soviet secret service in Brussels recently defected to the United States and revealed his contacts in Brussels including several high-placed persons, Brussels daily La Libre Belgique said yesterday.

The newspaper said they included a Western ambassador in Brussels, an assistant to European Economic Community President Jacques Delors, a high official of the Defence Ministry and a member of the office of Interior Minister Louis Tobback.

It said the assistant to Delors was involved in the negotiation of agreements between the EEC and East European countries.

A commission spokesman said: "It is correct that a commission official has been, in the framework of his duties, in contact with the (Soviet) person in question."

The spokesman specified, however, this official "was neither an assistant to the commission president, nor in charge of negotiating agreements with the East European countries."

The community in the past two years has concluded trade and economic co-operation agreements with Hungary, Poland, the Soviet Union, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

The spokesman refused to reveal the name of the official or to say whether he was still in function.

Commission sources said it was normal that several officials had contacts with Soviet diplomats in the line of their duties.

A commission spokesman said: "It is correct that a commission official has been, in the framework of his duties, in contact with the (Soviet) person in question."

The spokesman specified, however, this official "was neither an assistant to the commission president, nor in charge of negotiating agreements with the East European countries."

The community in the past two years has concluded trade and economic co-operation agreements with Hungary, Poland, the Soviet Union, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

La Libre Belgique said the KGB officer was flown to the United States without any warning being given to the Belgian government.

Members of the Belgian Army's information service later were allowed to question him in the United States, the paper said.

The newspaper said the KGB service in Brussels was the third most important one in the world after Washington and London.

Brussels houses the headquarters of the European Economic Community and of Nato.



American arrested

An American arrested after an alleged bomb threat on a Pan Am jetliner has been charged under Britain's aviation safety laws, police in Scotland said on Wednesday.

Saeed Ebrahimi, 37, a US citizen from Long Beach, California, made a brief court appearance and was ordered to remain in custody for seven days, said prosecutor Will Andrew.

Ebrahimi was not required to enter a plea. His court-appointed attorney, Robert Campbell, said he denies all offenses and denies that he told anyone there were explosives on a Pan Am Boeing 747.

Police blew up two pieces of baggage (above) taken from the plane but said they found no explosives.

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Police charge UK coach-crash driver

PARIS, June 6, (Reuters): French police charged the driver of a British coach which crashed killing 11 tourists with manslaughter today, a British embassy spokesman said.

John Johnston, who was injured in Sunday's crash, was also charged with involuntary wounding and speeding.

The 52-year-old driver was placed in police custody in hospital yesterday.

Paris Vandals break into high school

PARIS, June 6, (AP): Vandals broke into a high school, painted swastikas on the walls and left behind blood-soaked human skulls and bones, police said today.

The vandalism was discovered yesterday when students returned after a three-day holiday weekend to the Bernard-Palissy High School in Gien, on the Loire River about 120 kilometres (76 miles) south of Paris.

The intruders, who apparently climbed in through a window, painted swastikas and Stars of David on the ground floor, cut telephone cords, then went to the second floor and left blood-covered human bones, including about six skulls, police said.

Slogans were written on the walls in German.

Tests were being conducted today to determine when the bones were dug up and where the blood came from.

The 52-year-old driver was placed in police custody in hospital yesterday.

Fighting goes on despite pledge

SURIN, Thailand, June 6, (AP): Forces loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk were engaged in heavy combat inside Cambodia today despite Sihanouk's pledge a day earlier that his guerrillas no longer would fight in the 11-year-old conflict.

Rocket and artillery fire could be clearly heard from this Thai border province as Sihanouk forces engaged those of the Hun Sen government in Cambodia.

"There is heavy fighting now," said Roland Eng spokesman for Sihanouk's guerrilla organization. "Nothing will change for now. In Tokyo there was only an agreement, not implementation of a ceasefire. The fighting will continue."

Sihanouk and Premier Hun Sen signed a communique in Tokyo yesterday that said all of Cambodia's warring factions "should refrain from all offensive actions" and that there should be measures to ensure a "military standstill."

Vague

Although the vaguely worded communique fell short of being a ceasefire agreement, Sihanouk told reporters his own forces and those of his non-communist allies, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, would not take part in fighting inside Cambodia.

Sihanouk said the war would continue between the Hun Sen side and the Khmer Rouge, which boycotted the Tokyo conference sessions and did not sign the communique.

Eng said no orders had been received from Sihanouk in Tokyo to halt battlefield activity. He said it was his understanding that the ceasefire would not actually go into effect until a later date.

Guerrilla sources said Cambodian government troops were trying to push back a 2,000-man guerrilla offensive that had seized much of a strategic high-way in Banteay Meanchey province in northwestern Cambodia.

Meanwhile, in Bangkok, Thailand, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev accused the Khmer Rouge guerrillas of obstructing efforts toward peace in Cambodia.

"I can't say for China, but I think the Khmer Rouge abuse somehow the freedom that they have, and very often their actions run counter to interests of all parties concerned; the conflicting parties and the countries concerned; against the interests of the international community," Rogachev told reporters.

The Soviet Union is the main backer of Hun Sen's government, and opposes the Khmer Rouge, who are primarily supported by China.

Rogachev is in Thailand to attend the 46th session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

He said ways must be found to draw the Khmer Rouge back into the peace process. "It is a pity that the Khmer Rouge avoided signing this document." But the Tokyo meeting was not the final stage in the peace process, and there were some positive signs, he said.

Rogachev said he still was optimistic that further talks on Cambodia expected to be held in Paris could result in a freezing of arms supplies to all sides in the conflict.

Captured

Forces loyal to Sihanouk said they had captured three towns in central Kompong Thom in the past week.

A Sihanoukist statement said the guerrillas killed 66 soldiers in the attacks on Prasat Sambour on Friday and Staung on Monday. Sihanouk said the guerrillas "without any real fighting" on Saturday.

A guerrilla source told Reuters the Sihanoukists attacked jointly with fighters of the communist Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge said it had severed route 10, running 80 km (50 miles) between the important western towns of Pailin and Battambang.



Hun Sen (left) meets with Kailu in Tokyo. (Reuters wirephoto)

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FOR DEMOCRACY IN CHINA

Chinese Embassy charged of spying

A government official alleged Wednesday that the Chinese Embassy has threatened and spied on Chinese student demonstrators. Bernard Colliery, attorney-general of the Australian Capital Territory called on the government to investigate possible abuses of diplomatic privilege. Colliery said he has photographs that show a bogus protester filming students at a demonstration last week outside the National Press Club.

"I have produced three photographs which show embassy officials approaching a person who was facing a student demonstration in Canberra, and thereafter that person spoke amicably to them and filmed the student protest group," Colliery said.

"Those protesters stated that the person filming them was not part of their group."

A spokesman for the embassy refused to discuss the issue beyond saying Colliery's claims are groundless.

Colliery also said he had statements from Chinese dissidents who claim officials have told them to "not engage in any further activities, or else." He claimed that embassy staff have shown an "unhealthy interest" in other demonstrations by attempting to gain file footage from local television stations. (Reuters wirephoto)

China frees 97

Improving image at home and abroad

BEIJING, June 6, (Reuters): China freed 97 people jailed for roles in last year's democracy campaign today in a move foreign diplomats said was designed to improve the sagging image of Beijing's communist rulers at home and abroad.

The amnesty, announced two days after the anniversary of last June's bloody crackdown on Tiananmen Square, was to ensure China retained its most-favoured trade status with the United States and to prod Washington to end opposition to World Bank loans, envoys said.

Bush has linked progress in Sino-US relations with an improvement in China's human-rights record.

Beijing, eager to offset a loss of foreign tourism and investment dollars since June, wants the World Bank to restore lending halted after the crackdown.

The World Bank has made credits available to China for humanitarian purposes but has cut most loans since the army crushed a democracy movement last June 3 and 4, killing hundreds of people in Beijing.

The prisoners were released because they pleaded guilty, voluntarily confessed and expressed a willingness to repent, the Public Security Ministry was quoted by the official New China News Agency as saying.

Beijing released 211 prisoners last month and the latest move brought the total freed since the crackdown to 881, according to Beijing's own tally. China says 334 people are still in jail.

The prisoners freed including Xiong Wei and Zhou Fengsuo, who were once on a list of 21 most-wanted student activists. Chen Qizhi, deputy director of the Economics Department of Huadong University in Shanghai and Yang Lujun, a researcher at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, were also released.

The list did not include two of China's best known prisoners, student leader Wang Dan and activist Ren Wanding.

The announcement followed a tough security clampdown in Beijing for the anniversary of the crackdown.

The decision to free more prisoners might help assuage a hostile public, still bitter over the use of the army to quell unrest, diplomats said.

"I don't know if it will work but it might get people to put the anniversary behind them and get back to work," one diplomat said.

It also could help China lure vital investment dollars from Hong Kong ahead of a promotional trip to the British colony by Shanghai's mayor Zhu Rongji this week.

Hong Kong resident Yui Yung-Chin, a former student at Shanghai's Fudan University who was jailed for joining the democracy campaign, was among those released.

The amnesty could earn China badly needed goodwill in the colony, where 100,000 people rallied to mark the anniversary of the Beijing crackdown, diplomats said.

Rumours that a release was imminent circulated in Beijing last week.

■ Grass-roots communist party committees in a region where a minority rebellion erupted in April will undergo a shakeup, according to a report reaching Beijing on Wednesday.



A South Korean woman waits in front of a tombstone for her son, killed during the Vietnam war, in Seoul's national cemetery. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets reassure North on Seoul ties

MOSCOW, June 6, (AP): The official Soviet news agency has sought to reassure North Korea that the Kremlin won't let its relations with the communist state be damaged by Soviet moves to establish ties with South Korea.

Tass arrested in a commentary yesterday that Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with President Roh Tae-woo of South Korea had been described by Western media as a "political sensation" marking "drastic changes" in Moscow's Asia policy.

The commentary, by political analyst Yuri Kornilov, did not specify which news outlets were making those claims.

Roh told reporters after meeting the Soviet leader in San Francisco Monday that the two countries would establish diplomatic ties.

But Gorbachev was vague on the prospects of South Korean-Soviet ties, saying only, "we will let the fruit grow ripe, and when the fruit grows ripe, we will eat it."

Kornilov said the Roh-Gorbachev meeting was a sensation only because it was the first between leaders of the Soviet Union and South Korea — not because it signals any change in Soviet policy.

"As to prospects for the establishment of diplomatic relations, of which much is being written and said in the West nowadays, the Soviet stand is well known and remains unchanged: This issue can be considered only in connection with further improvement of the situation in the Korean peninsula."

Kornilov continued.

"Of course, the removal of ideological blinkers from our foreign policy and the course towards broader economic contacts and political dialogue with other countries in no way means that we give up our principled positions and priorities or forgo the interests of third countries."

And he reassured North Korea, "our country will continue to maintain and promote in all ways its traditionally close political, economic and other ties" with North Korea.

The Tass analyst said the Soviet Union continues to support North Korean proposals for peace on the peninsula.

Amnesty blames Nepal for torture

LONDON, June 6, (AP): Torture has been routine in Nepalese police stations, especially during the unrest that followed the launch of a pro-democracy movement in the Himalayan kingdom in February, Amnesty International said today.

Many victims suffered broken limbs, had pins stuck under fingernails, toenails ripped off and canes inserted into body orifices, it said.

"Beatings, including on the soles of the feet, were widespread," the worldwide human rights organization said.

It said the findings were based on more than 80 interviews with alleged victims by an Amnesty International team that visited Nepal in April. The team included a forensic expert experienced in torture cases, it said.

The charges were contained in a memorandum it said was being presented to Nepal's Prime Minister, Krishna Prasad Bhattarai.

In April, a new government led by opposition figures took office as part of the political reforms undertaken by King Birendra, who previously held the monarchy on power.

The army was called out in April after police fired on pro-democracy demonstrators marching on Birendra's palace.

Amnesty International's statement said the number of fatalities was not known, but that estimates ranged from fewer than 20 to more than 600 on April 6, alone.

It said its team found evidence that police several times ignored the rules on using live ammunition against demonstrators.

"In a number of cases, demonstrators were shot in the head, shoulders or chest, apparently in contravention of the specific obligation...not to shoot above the knees" it said.

President Ferdinand Marcos, conspired to buy New York real estate, art and jewellery worth \$222 million stolen from their homeland.

"Mrs Marcos is feeling a lot better, but not well enough to continue with the trial," said judge John Keenan in US district court in Manhattan. "We will continue next Tuesday at 11 am."

"I want to be sure you understand that nobody is responsible for the interruption," he told the jury. "By their nature trials are very stressful."

Keenan set Wednesday for legal arguments by the attorneys, without Imelda or her co-defendant, Saudi Arabian businessman Adnan Khashoggi who was charged with helping her hide the allegedly stolen assets.

Manila lawyers cite Enrile case

Call to free clients

MANILA, June 6, (AP): Lawyers for alleged communist rebels urged the courts today to dismiss charges against their clients, citing legal standards used by the Supreme Court in quashing an indictment against Sen Juan Ponce Enrile.

Yesterday, the Supreme Court effectively dismissed rebellion with murder charges against Enrile and 22 others accused in the Dec 1-9 failed coup against President Corason Aquino.

The court, by an 11-2 vote, decided against reviewing a 1965 decision that held that people who commit offences as part of an armed uprising should be charged only with rebellion.

Rebellion is punishable by 6 to 12 years imprisonment. Defendants are normally allowed bail. Despite the 1965 decision, the military routinely charges suspected communist rebels with murder and other offences for which bail is not allowed, to keep them in custody.

Today, lawyer Romeo Capulong said he asked Judge Maximiano Asuncion of the Quezon City regional trial court to dismiss murder, kidnapping and illegal weapons charges against Satur Ocampo and his wife Carolina Malay, alleged communist rebel leaders arrested last Aug 27.

Capulong said he and other lawyers would seek dismissal of similar charges against Rafael Baylosis, alleged secretary-general of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines, who was arrested March 29, 1988.

Capulong said the Supreme Court's decision would prevent the government from filing criminal charges other than rebellion against members of the Communist Party and affiliated groups.

"The charges of murder against Ocampo and Malay should be dismissed outright because the common crimes were committed in the course of the crime of rebellion," Capulong told the Associated Press.

In charging Enrile with the combined offence, Aquino used a decree issued by the late president Ferdinand Marcos, which she herself had repealed in July 1987 as oppressive.

Critics said the government apparently sought to use the old charge to deny Enrile bail. In March, the Supreme Court granted Enrile bail pending study of the 1956 ruling.

In 1988, the Supreme Court overturned the murder conviction of alleged communist rebel Andres Mangallan, saying he should have been charged only with rebellion.

Today, Presidential Press Secretary Tomas Gomez said the government will continue to pursue its case against Enrile.

"The quality of the evidence has not been dismissed whatsoever," Gomez said in a radio interview today. "The government will now file a case based on rebellion."

Also today, the army said it had arrested a suspected leader of the outlawed Communist Party, Antonio Tujan, thought to be chief recruitment officer for the party, was arrested last night in suburban Paranaque as he tried to make a phone call at a local store, said Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, the army vice chief of staff.

Tujan is the sixth Communist Party leader captured in the past 10 months, Biazon said.



Philippine communist leader Satur Ocampo (right) steps out of a Manila court, heavily guarded after a judge postponed the hearing of military charges against him of multiple murder for his alleged role in the massacre of spies for the government. (Reuters wirephoto)



Handcuffed Antonio Tujan (right) is presented to reporters at an army camp in Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

Filipino guerrilla Tujan caught

MANILA, June 6, (Reuters): Philippine security forces captured a senior communist guerrilla leader while he was making a phone call in a Manila street-corner store, the military said today.

Antonio Tujan, described by the military as a chief communist recruiter and ranked sixth in the hierarchy of the banned Communist Party, was the fourth guerrilla officer seized by government forces in two months.

The military said Tujan, 37, was making a call last night at a public phone in the Manila suburb of Paranaque when he was grabbed by military agents, tipped off by a civilian informer. It said the agents found a loaded gun in his bag.

In handcuffs, Tujan defiantly waved a clenched fist when armed forces deputy chief Major-General Rodolfo Biazon presented him briefly to reporters at an army camp today.

Biazon said the one-million-peso (\$45,000) bounty on Tujan's head "would tell us the importance of this guy" in the Communist Party. Military dossiers listed Tujan as a member of the party's central committee and political bureau.

Tujan's arrest coincided with stepped up guerrilla violence in the capital. Suspected members of a communist death squad shot dead retired Colonel Laudemer Kahulagan, security chief of a big Philippine food company, while he was driving to work yesterday.

Shiite leader's arrest order Insulting Thai king

BANGKOK, June 6, (UPI): Thai security forces ordered the arrest of a Shiite Muslim leader accused of organising anti-government rallies and insulting the Thai king, a senior military officer said today.

Gen. Pisit Saligupta, army forces chief of staff, said the army ordered the arrest of Shiite leader Sorayuth Sakumantisart after an illegal demonstration Sunday in Pattani, 660 miles (1,055 kms) south of Bangkok.

These hooligans used religious issues to cover up their real intention as separatist movement," Pisit said.

He said the demonstrators created instability and threatened to assault the Pattani governor.

"They also attacked the monarch. This is not acceptable. The king is highly respected and loved by Thai people," he said.

He said the arrest warrants were issued for insulting the king, "Lese Majeste," which is an offence under Thai law.

Pisit said security officials have blocked all exits from the region in the effort to arrest Sorayuth and some of his associates who were being identified from tape-recordings of the allegedly insulting remarks.

Shot fired at mission

HONG KONG, June 6, (Reuters): A shot fired at China's mission in Hong Kong during or just after weekend demonstrations in remembrance of last June's army crackdown in Beijing pierced a window but caused no injuries, the police said on Wednesday.

Police said they recovered a bullet from an 11th floor annex next door to the main headquarters building two days ago.

A source at the new China news agency, China's de facto consulate here, said by telephone, he believed the shot was fired during the demonstrations on Sunday, which ended in a noisy rally outside the NCNA headquarters.

Come back in a week, Imelda trial judge tells jurors

NEW YORK, June 6, (UPI): Jurors in the racketeering trial of ailing Imelda Marcos were told by the judge yesterday they don't have to come back for a week while she recuperates.

The 60-year-old former first lady of the Philippines collapsed in the courtroom Thursday, bleeding from the mouth, and was rushed to New York hospital where doctors said she had an inflammation of the stomach. Imelda is being tried on charges that she and her late husband, former Philippine

President Ferdinand Marcos, conspired to buy New York real estate, art and jewellery worth \$222 million stolen from their homeland.

"Mrs Marcos is feeling a lot better, but not well enough to continue with the trial," said judge John Keenan in US district court in Manhattan. "We will continue next Tuesday at 11 am."

"I want to be sure you understand that nobody is responsible for the interruption," he told the jury. "By their nature trials are very stressful."

"There is every good reason to continue next Tuesday, the 12th at 11 am," said the judge, who admonished jurors not to discuss the case and then bade them, "have a good week."

Keenan set Wednesday for legal arguments by the attorneys, without Imelda or her co-defendant, Saudi Arabian businessman Adnan Khashoggi who was charged with helping her hide the allegedly stolen assets.

Love story helps soften 'ugly Japanese' image

BANGKOK, Thailand, June 6, (AP): When Li Kobrai of the Japanese Imperial Army died in the arms of his pregnant Thai wife this weekend, many, many tears are certain to flow.

And millions of Thais will be left with images of the Japanese very different from those of fanatic, Samurai-style warriors of World War II or today's aggressive "economic animals."

Since January, the Thai public — from maids to society matrons — has become addicted to a serialised television drama titled "Khru Kam," or "Star-Crossed Lovers."

Bangkok's notorious traffic jams and social engagements are often cancelled when episodes are shown each weekend. Fans have been writing the producers, pleading for a change to the tragic ending. Others have proposed marriage to the show's stars.

The series is based on a still enormously popular novel written by Vimol Sirinpaiboon in the late 1960s. It tells of a Japanese officer who falls in love with a Thai college undergraduate during World War II.

Although Kobrai carries his army sword even into the bedroom, he is willing to do anything for his love, even neglect some of his soldierly duties. Angsumalin, the Thai

woman, hides her own strong feelings for him out of Thai patriotism until the moment Kobrai dies in an allied bombing raid.

This already has been the novel adapted twice on the screen and twice for television.

The popularity of the latest version, on television Channel 7, stems in large part from the appeal of Tongchai McIntyre, one of Thailand's top pop singers. The handsome son of a Thai mother and Scottish father puts in a soulful performance.

Many Thais say the hero of the series is an effective antidote to the hard-edged "ugly Japanese" image in Thailand, where the Japanese are resented by many for their

aggressive business dealings and alleged attempts to gain an economic stranglehold on the country.

One Thai who has criticised aspects of Japanese behaviour is Mechai Viravayda, a leading development expert and former actor who portrayed Kobrai in the first adaptation in 1969.

"This is very, very good public relations for the Japanese. But if you look at Kobrai's character, this type of Japanese has yet to be born," Mechai said in an interview. "With Kobrai's notions about the heart being more important than flag and country, he would have been put in jail — or at least

given a low-ranking job in a Japanese corporation."

Some within the large Japanese community here agree that "Khru Kam" is the best pro-Japanese propaganda to come along in years. But local newspapers and magazines have reported that a segment of that community is critical, noting a Kobrai type did not exist in the Imperial Army. Some reportedly have taken offence at a scene in which Kobrai releases an American prisoner of war and at depictions of Japanese soldiers as lax and rude.

Nonetheless, it is unlikely that such a basically sympathetic portrayal would be

featured in countries like South Korea, the Philippines, Indonesia and other Asian countries that suffered at the hands of the Japanese Army in the last world war.

Thailand's experience was mixed. The Japanese Army was allowed to use Thai territory to invade neighbouring Burma and in 1942, Bangkok declared war on the allies. The Thai ambassador in Washington, however, refused to deliver the declaration and started an anti-Japanese "Free Thai" movement.

As the war drew to an end, the Japanese in Thailand became increasingly harsher, but many Thais were unaffected.

Police search Mandela homes

JOHANNESBURG, June 6, (Reuters): South African police searched two houses belonging to black nationalist Nelson Mandela in Soweto today, prompting his African National Congress (ANC) to say it was very disturbed and would protest to the government.

Mandela and his wife Winnie are now on a 13-nation tour to try to sustain foreign pressure on South Africa to force the government to dismantle apartheid rapidly.

Police spokesman Brigadier Vic Haynes said the officers had a search warrant and were acting on information that a murder suspect, who had no connection with the Mandelas, might be hiding in one of their houses while the couple were abroad.

"Persons who, in the absence of Mr Mandela, are responsible for the security of the houses gave their full co-operation to the police in good spirit," he said.

But Mandela's close associate, Walter Sisulu, disputed the police version and told reporters: "We are very disturbed."

Sisulu told the South African Press Association news agency that police initially suggested they were looking for arms rather than for a murder suspect and only changed their version when a colonel intervened.

Sisulu added that during the early morning raid the police were "absolutely rude, did not produce a warrant and abused the men in their homes."

Sisulu, who is in charge of the ANC's internal organisation, said he would contact the justice or law and order ministries later today.

Police declined to give the suspect's name or details of the 1988 murder for which they said he was being sought, but a spokesman in Soweto said the case was not political.

Other houses in the township were also searched, but the suspect was not found.

Liberia rebels take sea port

Doe sees Libyan hand

BUCHANAN, June 6, (Agencies): Liberian rebels yesterday controlled Buchanan, Liberia's second-largest port, after two weeks of fighting in which many citizens as well as soldiers died and large parts of the city were reduced to rubble.

A fresh attack Sunday that ended early Monday enabled rebel leader Charles Taylor's forces to rout government troops. Taylor's rebels, estimated at about 4,000 men, say the government of President Samuel Doe is corrupt and brutal and has ruined the country's economy. Doe himself seized power in a 1980 coup.

Doe, in a telephone interview yesterday with American television CBS News, accused the rebels of accepting backing from Libya's Moammar Khaddafi.



Hitchcock predicts victory June 5 as he gestures the thumbs-up sign in Durban. (Reuters wirephoto)

"I want to believe that Khaddafi is supporting the rebel activities in my country because among the rebel forces, there are people trained to enter Monrovia in order to destroy American installations," he said.

CBS News said US officials say the rebels have received some support from Khaddafi, but have not made any threats against Americans.

Taylor's troops were poised to move on the capital, Monrovia, from positions near the Robertsfield airport, which serves the capital. For days rebel forces have been poised to move into the capital. A major offensive against government troops at the capital's airport in Robertsfield is expected in the next few days.

Despite those reports, Doe remained optimistic. "I'm 100 per cent sure that the rebels will not be able to enter the city of Monrovia," he told CBS News.

In Washington, the State Department said yesterday that attempts to negotiate a solution to the conflict have failed.

Four US warships were anchored off the Liberian coast to rescue US nationals if they are unable to get out of air. The State Department on Monday urged Americans to leave before the situation deteriorates further. Between 1,100 and 1,200 American business people, missionaries, and their families live in Liberia.

Only one airline, Air Guinea, was still flying into Liberia at Springs Payne airport, about 5 miles (8 km) from downtown Monrovia. The Robertsfield airport has been closed to air traffic. The State Department said the road to Sierra Leone from Monrovia remains open.

In Buchanan, the stench of death was everywhere.

Bodies littered the roads. Dogs roamed among the shattered glass and melted tin roofs. Rebel troops wandered through the city, looting shops of beer and Coca-Cola. The main streets were awash with the rubble of broken bottles and the rubble of burned-out buildings.

Rebels took control of all of the vast Bridgestone-Firestone rubber plantation today and attacked the adjoining international airport but government troops evidently killed a senior aide to insurgent leader Charles Taylor, rebel sources said.

The rebels made "friendly" contact with the US management of the rubber plantation, the largest in the world, 1 mile (1.6 km) from the Robertsfield international airport, said residents and the sources.

The rebels began an attack on the airport last night and seized the nearby key checkpoint at Owensgrove and the Firestone company town at Harbel but did not immediately capture the facility 35 miles southeast of the capital Monrovia, said the sources.

Workers for all parties said national white fears of rising levels of violence and crime, which are widely blamed on blacks, had dominated the campaign.

Top ex-CP leaders suspected of crushing '68 uprising

Pre-election arrests in Prague

PRAGUE, June 6, (Agencies): Three of the hardline communists who once ruled Czechoslovakia, including party leader Milos Jakes, have been arrested just days before the country's general election.

Deputy Interior Minister Andrej Samel said Jakes was taken into custody at the request of the prosecutor-general today.

Samel said former politburo member Jozef Lenart was also arrested today, while the Slovak Interior Ministry said the communist party's former chief ideologist, Vasil Blak, was arrested last night.

Samel told Reuters that two more former officials of the Communist Party were arrested today at the request of Czechoslovak Prosecutor-General Tibor Boehm.

He named them as Rudolf Hegenbart, who headed the party's state administration department, and Michal Stefanak, who headed the International Policy Department.

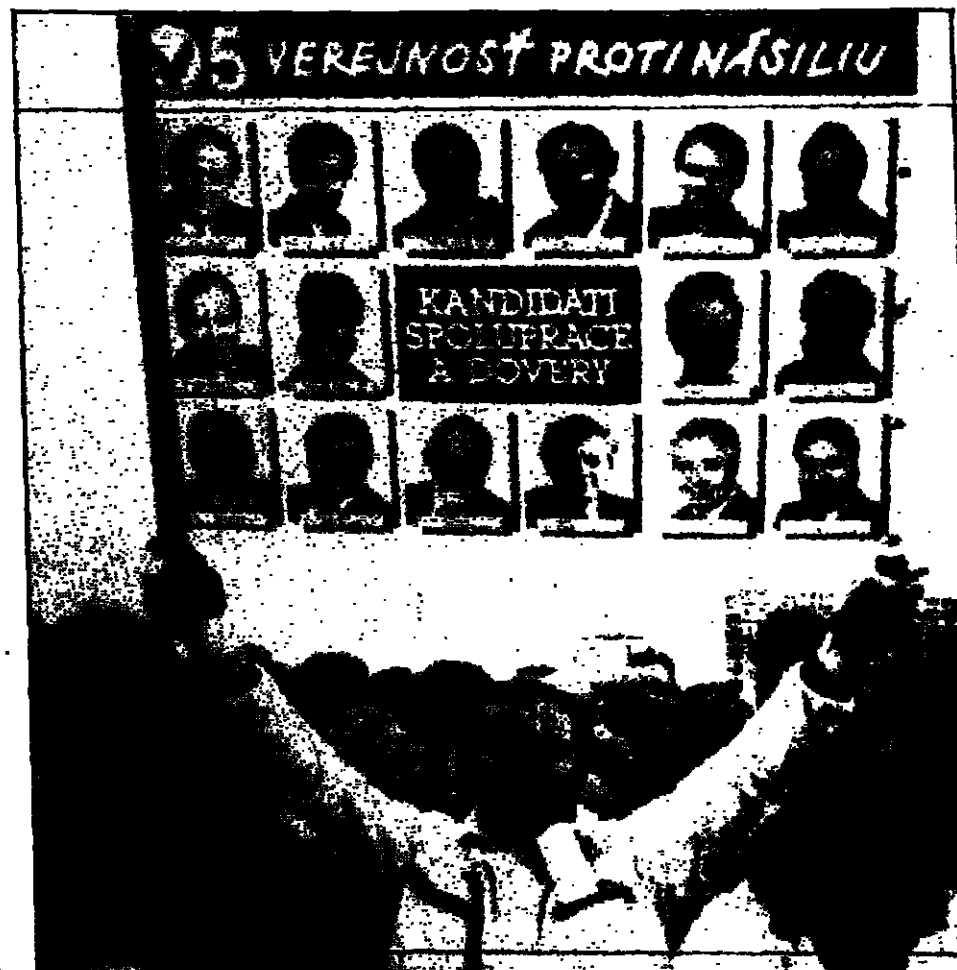
Jakes, Lenart, Hegenbart and Stefanak were all detained in Prague in a co-ordinated action, Samel said.

"They are suspected of violating the law in connection with the entry of the five (Warsaw Pact) armies on August 21, 1968, and other criminal acts such as abuse of power," he said. "I cannot exclude that other people acting against the law and the security of this country could be detained, both in Prague and elsewhere."

Troops from the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact entered Czechoslovakia in August 1968 to end the Prague Spring Liberalisation Movement.

Meanwhile, Czechoslovakia's low-key campaign for its first free elections in 44 years drew to a close today after an appeal by President Vaclav Havel to his people to turn out in force.

"I would like to appeal to all of you who wish to live in a democratic, independent, prosperous and really federal state to take part in them," Havel said.



A man holds up a campaign poster for the "Public against Violence" political coalition during an election rally in Nitra, Czechoslovakia June 5. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mandela gets hero's welcome upon arrival in Paris

Uphill task of convincing Europe to maintain sanctions against Pretoria

PARIS, June 6, (Reuters): France laid on a hero's welcome today for Nelson Mandela but Paris also provided first proof that he faced a hard task convincing Europe to maintain anti-apartheid sanctions against South Africa.

Mandela's arrival time in Paris (1700 GMT) coincides with that of a powerful delegation from South Africa's huge electricity company Eskom.

While Mandela urges President Francois Mitterrand to maintain economic sanctions, Eskom Director-General Francois Botha will be promoting investment opportunities in South Africa to French financiers

and business leaders. Organisers named French investment Bank Paribas as one of the leading French groups welcoming the directors of Eskom, which provides 97 per cent of electricity used in South Africa.

France is the starting point for the African National Congress (ANC) deputy president's 13-nation tour of Europe, North America and Africa over six weeks.

For much of his trip, Mandela will be following the route traced by President F.W. de Klerk last month in the longest and most successful foreign tour by a South African leader since World War Two.

Paris is a vocal opponent of apartheid and has played a prominent role in initiating dialogue between South African whites and their black guerrilla enemies.

Mandela, freed by De Klerk last February after 27 years in jail for sabotage, said he was anxious to thank Danielle Mitterrand, the wife of the French president, for her role in fostering the dialogue.

She heads the French human rights group France-Libertes, which set up meetings of whites and blacks in Senegal and France, and will greet Mandela at Orly airport.

The Mitterrands will be among thousands attending an evening reception

for Mandela at the Trocadero monument. Diplomats said the lavish reception masks the uphill task Mandela faces in his sanctions campaign.

France has not followed Britain in easing sanctions to reward De Klerk for measures he has taken to roll back apartheid but has not stated its position since De Klerk's visit last month.

Portugal openly favours the British position and other European governments are wavering, diplomats said.

Mandela renewed his appeal to maintain sanctions in a French television interview broadcast on the eve of his arrival.

Whites vote on reforms

Klerk put to test

DURBAN, South Africa, June 6, (Reuters): White South Africans voted today in the first ballot box test of President F. W. de Klerk's plans to give political power to blacks and initial indications were that the right-wing opposition was gaining ground.

It will be a major upset if the Conservative Party (CP) wins the by-election in the Natal province constituency of Umlazi and a shock for De Klerk, whose reforms are aimed at ending apartheid and 300 years of white minority rule.

The seat is the ruling National Party's biggest stronghold in Natal. The CP trailed a poor third in September's whites-only general election behind the NP and the liberal Democratic Party (DP).

Unless the CP improves that performance dramatically, it will be a severe setback for the right wing and ultra-right extremists who say they are aiming to fight black rule.

Disconsolate-looking Democratic Party workers said shortly after polling booths opened that it looked as though the nationalists and conservatives were running neck and neck.

CP leader Andries Treurnicht paid a surprise visit to polling stations and told Reuters: "I'm confident, hopeful, positive. A win isn't impossible, it's even

possible."

He said victory for the CP, which insists De Klerk has no mandate for his black power-sharing reforms, would be a big boost to its drive to force early general elections.

"The government has promised to put its reforms to a (white) election or referendum," he said.

He said a CP win at Umlazi would show that De Klerk no longer spoke for the majority of whites since he legalised black nationalist activity, freed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, entered exploratory power-sharing talks and began to dismantle apartheid laws.

De Klerk commands 102 seats in the 178-seat Parliament and need not call another election for four years.

But analysts said that, while winning plaudits abroad for his reforms, he might have moved too far in front of his own supporters.

The pro-apartheid conservatives pledge to build a separate white state and stop integrating schools, hospitals and neighbourhoods.

Workers for all parties said national white fears of rising levels of violence and crime, which are widely blamed on blacks, had dominated the campaign.

Harare teachers rally dispersed

2 kids charged of kidnapping, killing tot

HARARE, June 6, (AP): Armed riot police fired tear-gas to disperse about 2,000 striking teachers in downtown Harare today, a few hours after the government announced tough measures to end a wave of work stoppages.

Baton-wielding police, many armed also with automatic rifles and submachine guns, surrounded the main square in the central business district and used loudhailers to order strikers to end a protest gathering opposite the offices of Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper.

The strikers fled into sidestreets when police fired several tear-gas canisters into Africa unity square.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or arrests. In other developments, two children accused of kidnapping and murdering a 2-year-old boy in southern Zimbabwe were under police guard near their home Tuesday, police said.

The two sisters, aged 7 and 8, were taken with their parents to a remote police camp for their own protection, said a police spokesman who by custom was not identified.

He said it was feared villagers might avenge the death on May 30 of infant Taviringwa Mukweke.

In a case that has aroused strong emotions in rural Shurugwe, about 320 km (200 miles) southwest of Harare, it is alleged the 2-year-old and his 3-year-old sister Sharon were marched into the bush and beaten with sticks and stones by the two children girls after a dispute between the adults of both families.

Sharon escaped from her assailants and was hospitalised with serious injuries, police said.

The spokesman said police were seeking guidance from justice and welfare department officials on how to proceed with what he described as "this unusual incident."

Earlier in the day a procession of chanting school pupils marched through central Harare demanding the government meet teachers demands for a 30 per cent increase in pay.

Several placards carried by the children said, "we want our teachers back." And "we support the teachers. We are tomorrow's leaders."

About 10,000 non-graduate junior teachers, out of a total of some 84,000 teachers, stopped work countrywide on May 28.

MINOLTA & ALGHANIM: A successful business formula

The Electronics Group of Yusuf Ahmed Alghanim & Sons recently hosted the first Minolta dealers' convention. Mr. Tadashi Maki, representing Minolta, Japan, travelled to Kuwait from Japan to attend this unique event. In his welcoming speech, Mr. Maki stated, "We at Minolta Camera are very happy with our new association with Yusuf Ahmed Alghanim, which is considered one of the biggest trading companies in Kuwait and the Arabian Gulf."

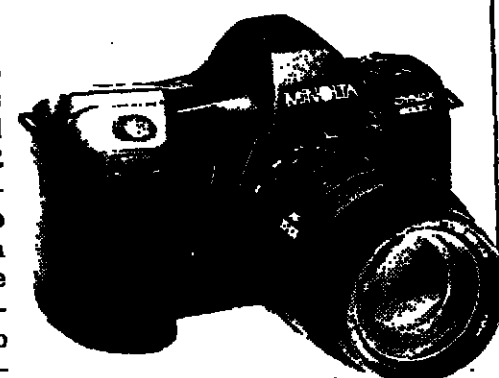
"We have full faith that your past cooperation with Alghanim Group will be the sound basis for a strong future relationship based on common and mutual interest."

Mr. Maki went on to say that Minolta Camera will fully support Alghanim as far as sup-

plying the best cameras and photographic products with the latest technology available. He stressed that Minolta will also supply all the available spare parts needed for the after-sales service operation.

Alghanim Electronics Group and Minolta will work closely together in order to increase the sales and distribution of the

integrated in a single body, was introduced. It is considered as the most comprehensive and sophisticated autofocus SLR camera system. Its built-in computer focuses continuously to capture the "perfect shot" in precise focus, while at the same time measuring different exposure zones within the frame to analyze lighting and automati-



Not content to produce just one "world's first", minolta later introduced another camera featuring autofocus model Dynax 3000i that is now ranked as the world's most compact and lightweight autofocus SLR camera useable with a wide range of system accessories.

"These aren't just new products", as one Minolta engineer puts it. "These are part of our continuing series of new products that satisfy dynamic and changing market needs. Like a stairway, with each of these new products and designs, we lead people's lives up towards better ideas and activities."

Minolta products are already displayed at all Alghanim Electronics showrooms throughout Kuwait, who offer full credit facilities for easy purchase of any camera or equipment.

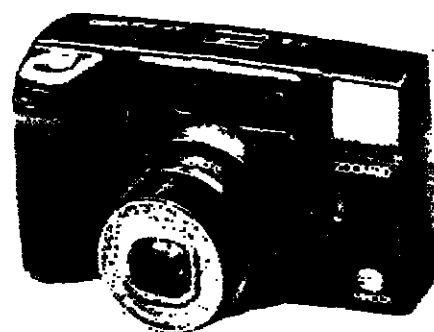


Minolta product range through Kuwait camera dealers, especially that the wholesale section represents a big market share of total camera sales.

Featured at the convention was a dramatic first by Minolta; the thinking Camera. The Dynax 8000i, with intelligent, autofocus, intelligent exposure and intelligent flash control, all

cally switch to the best exposure for the best picture.

Minolta was the first company to introduce full autofocus to 35mm SLR photography with the Dynax 7000 model that became very popular worldwide and took Minolta along with it to the no. 1 sales ranking around the world in popular SLR systems.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman nominated for governor: Former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, who stressed her support for the death penalty and abortion rights, has won the Democratic nomination for governor of California.

North Carolina Democrats broke racial precedent and chose Harvey Gantt, a black former mayor, to challenge Republican Sen. Jesse Helms.

Both nominations came in political primaries held Tuesday in many states nationwide.

Feinstein defeated Attorney General John Van de Kamp in the earliest returns. Sen. Pete Wilson rolled over three unknowns to capture the Republican nomination for governor of the most populous state in the United States. (AP)

Man held in 'wanted posters' case: A black critic of a local school desegregation plan was arrested Tuesday in Jacksonville, Florida and accused of having "wanted posters" distributed offering \$10,000 for the deaths of seven black leaders.

Ralph Leon Stephens, 47, identified by Sheriff Jim McMillan as an architect and sign painter was arrested. Police interviewed one of his friends. Stephens had shown the friend the poster and asked him to distribute it, police said.

Stephens, who is black, was identified as a member of a small political group which is opposed to local desegregation plans. Authorities said he is a frequent speaker at both school board and city council meetings, arguing for neighbourhood schools. (AP)

Hate group activity increases: Hate group activity is increasing in Florida, an official from the Anti-Defamation League said on Tuesday.

"There have been a number of anti-Semitic incidents," said Stephen Goldman, regional director of the greater Orlando Anti-Defamation League. "The severity and the volume that took place on Monday is unusual."

Goldman was referring to an incident in which a member of the Florida Corps Skinheads, self-proclaimed white supremacists distinguished by their shaved heads, and three who described themselves as punk rockers were arrested for kidnapping and assault. (Reuters)

Fueling test to reveal Columbia leak: Space agency officials trying to find a tiny hydrogen leak that has held up Columbia's astronomy mission since last week pinned their hopes Wednesday on a fueling test of the shuttle.

Officials with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration fear Columbia will have to be returned to the hangar for repairs, which would delay its trip into orbit with the \$150-million astro observatory by about a month.

A launch attempt last week was scrubbed because of a hydrogen leak in the engine compartment during fueling with liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen. The mission already was two weeks late because of cooling system repairs. (AP)

Hurricane season predicted: Hurricane forecasters said Tuesday the southeastern United States should prepare for an active tropical storm season this year and warned it might usher in a new era of stronger hurricanes.

Gray, a professor of atmospheric science at Colorado State University, has issued hurricane predictions annually since 1984. His predictions had been very close every year until last year, when his forecast was wide of the mark.

Last year, Gray predicted four hurricanes, three short of the actual number. He also failed to predict anything of the magnitude of Hugo, the most destructive hurricane in the nation's history. (UPI)

Conservationists claim a victory: The US market for ivory has virtually collapsed since President George Bush banned imports a year ago to help protect the African elephant, and sales have dropped in some other countries, the World Wildlife Fund said Tuesday.

Bush announced a moratorium on imports on June 5, 1989.

"Dealers report that wholesale prices for jewellery and simple carvings, which historically accounted for most of the US market, have been discounted by 40 to 70 per cent ... (AP)

Bush telephones Kaifu: President George Bush telephoned Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to tell him that during the summit he backed Japan in a dispute over islands held by the Soviet Union, the White House spokesman said yesterday.

Bush and Kaifu also agreed to meet privately shortly before the July 9-11 Western economic summit, "most likely" in Houston, Texas, the state of the economic meeting, spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters.

Fitzwater said Bush called Kaifu about 7 pm (2300 GMT) Monday, when it was 8 am in Japan. (AP)

Aids cases reported in China: Xiong Rucheng remembers the day he and his colleagues at the Yunnan public health bureau learned that drug addicts near the border with Burma had contracted AIDS.

"No one could believe it," said Xiong, chairman of the bureau's foreign affairs office. "How could China have AIDS?"

They sent the report to the Ministry of Public Health in Beijing, which didn't believe it either.

"They said, 'We'll help you clear this up,'" Xiong said.

But after testing the 50 samples three times, "they finally believed us."

Since that batch was analysed last September, 146 drug addicts out of nearly 6,000 tested have been found to carry the HIV virus, he said. (AP)

Hong Kong student released: Chinese authorities have released a Hong Kong student detained for almost a year for his alleged role in the pro-democracy movement in Shanghai last year, a Hong Kong government spokesman said Tuesday.

Yao Yongzhan, a Hong Kong president who had been studying at a Shanghai University, was taken off a Hong Kong-bound flight after the June 3-4, 1989, military suppression in Beijing of the pro-democracy movement that swept China last spring. (AP)

Tremor shakes Vanuatu: Pair of earthquakes damaged homes and caused landslides on Vanuatu's Mekevu island, Radio Vanuatu reported.

There were no reports of casualties in the quake Tuesday. A Richter scale measurement of the quake's force was not immediately available.

Davidson Lipil, secretary to the Banks-Torres local government council, said today that most of the damage was at Tasmat village, where about 400 people live. (AP)



Ciancimino held

Undated file picture of Vito Ciancimino, 66, a leading Christian Democrat local politician for 30 years and former mayor of Palermo linked to the Mafia was arrested June 5 on charges of embezzling public funds. Magistrates said the latest charges were connected with an eight billion lire (\$6.4 million) contract to improve water and sewage system in Palermo during the early 1980s which was never carried out. (Reuters wirephoto)

French move

Ban on tobacco ad

PARIS, June 6, (AP): The cabinet today voted to give France one of the world's toughest anti-smoking laws — a total ban on tobacco advertising to take effect in 1993.

The bill also would severely restrict advertising for alcoholic beverages. Ads for hard liquor would be allowed only in publications oriented specifically toward adults, and these would have to carry a message about the health hazards of drinking.

A separate bill is expected to be introduced soon that would raise cigarette prices by 15 per cent — the biggest single hike ever in France.

Cabinet spokesman Louis Le Pen said that "100,000 people die prematurely in France each year because of tobacco and excess alcohol consumption. This is an intolerable human, social and economic cost."

Under the legislation, submitted by Health Minister Claude Evin, all direct and indirect tobacco advertising will be banned as of Jan 1, 1993, including the sponsorship of sports and cultural events by tobacco companies.

Even the use of cigarette trademarks as logos on non-tobacco items — such as clothing or luggage — will be banned, Le Pen said.

Europe

US must remain strong:

The United States must remain in a strong military to counter future threats to peace despite the apparent ending of the cold war, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said on Tuesday.

"The idea of a security threat was not invented by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and it will remain long after that party is over," Cheney said in a speech and question-and-answer session before the Economic Club of New York, an organisation of the heads of major businesses. (Reuters)

Ex-Berlin leaders in hospital:

Eight elderly former members of East Germany's old Socialist elite are being examined in a police hospital to determine whether they can stand trial for graft and misuse, officials said on Tuesday.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said an independent panel of medical and psychiatric experts would assess the results of the examinations and the prosecutor's office would make a final decision on whether the cases could go to trial.

The eight were undergoing checks in the people's police (volkspolizei) hospital in East Berlin, he said. He did not say when the examinations began or would end and declined to name the eight former leaders. (Reuters)

Call on Chitac to quit:

A government-appointed military committee called Tuesday for the resignation of Interior Minister Gen. Mihail Chitac.

The action committee for army democratisation includes officers who demanded Chitac's resignation during a six-day protest last February for allegedly taking part in the repression of the popular revolt that overthrew dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

The officers also demanded the resignation of then Defence Minister Gen. Nicolae Militaru, citing his long links with Ceausescu. He retired and was replaced by Gen. Victor Atanasiu Stanculescu. (AP)

Rotary club opens in Soviet:

Rotary International, once condemned and barred by communist governments as subversive and an agent of capitalist exploitation, on Tuesday opened its first club in the Soviet Union.

Hugh Archer, American president of the worldwide organisation of businessmen and professionals, presented a charter of recognition to the founding head of the Moscow club, Soviet law professor Viktor Mezolin.

"Bringing the Soviet Union into the International Rotary family has been made possible by the changes in this country over the past few years," Archer told a news conference before the formal ceremony, at Moscow's Praga restaurant. (Reuters)

UK bandleader Loss dies:

British bandleader Joe Loss, one of the kings of the ballroom dance era, died of kidney failure in a London hospital on Wednesday at the age of 80, his publicity agent said.

Loss's soft-spoken manner and easy-to-dance-to music won him millions of fans, including the British royal family who frequently engaged his big band to play at royal balls. (Reuters)

Focus on stalled arms talks, Soviet hard line on German unity

Nato ministers' bid to break impasse

TURNBERRY, Scotland, June 6. (Reuters): Nato foreign ministers, facing stalled arms talks in Vienna and a tough Soviet line on German unification, start a two-day meeting on Thursday on how to break the impasse.

The 16 ministers, gathered in a luxury Scottish hotel, are expected to give Moscow what officials call "a signal of flexibility" so that a landmark accord on cutting Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) can be signed this year.

Alliance diplomats and officials said it was not yet clear what that signal should be and that there was some disagreement on whether Nato, which has blamed Moscow for stalling the talks, should offer concrete

concessions.

The ministers will also discuss how to overcome Soviet objections to bringing a united Germany into Nato. The United States outlined a nine-point plan at last weekend's summit, but it was not enough for Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"We seem to have reached a bit of an impasse on these subjects and we have to talk about what we can do to open it up," said one Nato diplomat.

Signs of progress on the German issue emerged yesterday after a two-hour meeting in Copenhagen between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and US Secretary of State James Baker.

"The area of mutual understanding of

those complex issues seems to be gradually broadening," Shevardnadze said.

Baker said he better understood a Soviet proposal, made at the Washington summit, to have Nato and the Warsaw Pact sign an agreement that could help ease fears about German unification and its future military alliances.

Shevardnadze will discuss German unity with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher next week in the Soviet Union, Bonn's Foreign Ministry said today.

For Nato, which has pledged major changes in its strategy, time is pressing — although uncertainty about the future of the Soviet Union and its charismatic leader

makes it increasingly difficult to forge lasting plans.

A CFE accord would cut US and Soviet troops levels in Central Europe to 195,000 on each side and bring the destruction of thousands of tanks, artillery pieces and other vehicles.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl left for the United States yesterday for important consultations on how to break an impasse with Moscow over the military attachments of a united Germany.

Kohl meets Friday with US President George Bush in Washington, where the two leaders will discuss Bush's just-concluded summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Gorbachev returns to troubled homeland

Soviet emigration law passage delayed

MOSCOW, June 6, (AP): Mikhail Gorbachev returned from the United States yesterday triumphantly bearing trade and arms deals but facing ethnic bloodshed in Central Asia, an impasse with the secessionist Baltic republics and trouble in the Kremlin.

In Gorbachev's absence, his nemesis Boris Yeltsin was elected president of Russia, the largest Soviet republic, and immediately called for the resignation of the Soviet cabinet and a new constitution that would vastly reduce the powers of the central government.

And within the ancient red brick walls of the Kremlin itself the Supreme Soviet legislature unexpectedly postponed consideration of the emigration law that US President George Bush set as a precondition for implementing the trade pact.

It was not clear whether the postponement was instigated by Gorbachev, who warned on Sunday that he might curb the emigration of Soviet Jews if they continued to settle on lands economic war.

The White House said yesterday that apparent delay in passage of a Soviet emigration law would give Moscow time to work out its difficulties with Lithuania and improve chances of congressional approval of a US-Soviet trade pact.

"That may not be bad, in the sense it gives them a little time to work on the emigration issue ... and for action on Lithuania," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said of news reports that the Soviet Union would not pass laws easing emigration until September.

The White House said yesterday that President Bush decided only at the last minute to sign a trade treaty with Gorbachev after repeated discussions about Lithuania.

However, after impassioned pleas by Gorbachev to Bush — and also to congressional leaders — the president decided to sign the agreement.

Rep. Robert Michel, leader of Bush's minority Republicans in the lower house of Congress said Gorbachev made a remarkable presentation to the lawmakers.

"Here was the first time a Soviet leader (was) telling us, 'I've got real problems at home and we'd like to establish a market economy' which ought to give us all a measure of hope," Michel said.

Gorbachev apparently is following the lead of Western politicians and having polls conducted on his personal popularity, a senator who spoke with the Soviet leader said yesterday.

Senator Alan Cranston, Democrat of California, said he raised the subject of polling Sunday night while he and Senator Pete Wilson, Republican of California, accompanied Gorbachev on his flight from Minneapolis to San Francisco.

Cranston said he showed Gorbachev a poll published in Friday's Los Angeles Times showing 70 per cent of the Soviet people approve of the way Gorbachev is handling his job — and found the Soviet leader was not surprised.

Leaders of the Soviet Union's three independence-minded Baltic republics will meet today in the Latvian capital Riga to discuss last week's superpower summit, a Latvian official said yesterday.

Military leaders in the Baltic region, meanwhile, accused the separatist governments in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania of boosting tension in the region and weakening the Soviet Union's defences.



Gorbachev (centre) talks to Anatoly Lukyanov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet (right) and to Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov (left) on his return to Moscow, June 5. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviet plan vague

Compromise on Germany possible

COPENHAGEN, June 6, (Reuters): US Secretary of State James Baker said today that a Soviet proposal on the military future of a united Germany remained vague but stressed that Nato would continue its role as "guarantor of peace" in Europe.

Baker, distancing himself from a Soviet vision of an enlarged structure of European Security and Cooperation, said the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) should be a forum for high-level political discussion.

"CSCE, Nato and the EEC and other democratic institutions of Europe must now play a greater part in deepening and broadening European unity," Baker told a CSCE human rights meeting in Copenhagen.

"We must ensure that these organisations continue to complement and reinforce each other," he said, adding: "Nato will continue to serve as the indispensable guarantor of peace."

Baker, who had two hours of private talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze yesterday, said he would discuss Soviet proposals on European security with Nato foreign ministers at a meeting beginning tomorrow.

But he told a news conference before leaving for Britain and the Nato meeting that a Soviet idea for an agreement between the Nato and Warsaw Pact military alliances on Germany remained vague.

"I will tell the alliance what I've told you and perhaps a little bit more," he said.

He said Shevardnadze had given him "a little bit more of an insight" into the Soviet proposal.

"If it ever comes to anything it is something that we first want to discuss with the allies once we find out specifically what they had in mind. We don't know that yet," Baker said.

After his meeting with Shevardnadze, Baker said he better understood the Soviet proposal, advanced at last week's superpower summit and designed to assuage Moscow's fears about the military future of a united Germany.

Washington wants Germany to be a Nato member. Moscow wants it to be neutral or part of a pan-European security system.

Asked if the two sides were moving towards compromise on the issue, Baker said: "I hope that we are making progress."

Shevardnadze told the 35-nation CSCE meeting yesterday he believed compromise was possible and he said the future of Germany had to be resolved in a wider European context.

He said the solution should be found in the framework of the talks involving the two Germany's and the World War Two victors — the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Britain.

Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen has told reporters he expects the German issue to be resolved within two months and endorsed by a CSCE summit later this year.

Baker said he was pleased preparations were to begin for a possible CSCE summit at the end of this year and said Washington would expect an agreement on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) to be signed then.

Shevardnadze left Copenhagen last night after meeting Baker. He is due to attend a Warsaw Pact summit meeting beginning in Moscow tomorrow.

Some Western governments are sceptical about the idea of making the CSCE the centrepiece of a new European security order, saying it would dilute US influence in Europe.

But several foreign ministers at the Copenhagen conference have said the CSCE could be expanded to take on a wider role.

"The CSCE can be the drawing board for the architecture of a new Europe," Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark told a news conference.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will meet Shevardnadze in the Soviet Union next week to discuss German unity, the foreign ministry said.

It said Shevardnadze invited Genscher to the city of Brest on the Polish border for all-day talks next Monday on the external aspects of unification of East and West Germany.

In Moscow, the official Tass news agency said Shevardnadze and Genscher would meet on June 11 in Brest.

In New York yesterday, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl stressed Bonn's insistence on a united Germany being firmly anchored in the West.

"The future Germany cannot and will therefore not be a wanderer between two worlds," he said in a speech.

"We want no neutrality or demilitarisation. We reject non-alignment or freedom of blocs," said Kohl, who will be briefed on the summit by Bush at a White House meeting on Friday.

Egypt pledges to back Lebanon

CAIRO, June 6, (AP): Egypt promised Lebanese President Elias Hrawi today to use its influence in the Arab world to try and end Lebanon's long misery.

Cairo also said it would undertake international contacts seeking to restore Lebanese sovereignty over parts of southern Lebanon under Israeli control.

But Osama Al-Baz, a key aide to President Hosni Mubarak, warned that Israel is not easily persuaded "to take a certain path."

Hrawi, on his first trip to Cairo since assuming battle-scarred Lebanon's presidency last Nov 24, discussed with Mubarak for two hours how Egypt can become more active in ending the country's chaos.

The Lebanese leader also met with the United States' Ambassador to Lebanon, John McCarthy who assumed his post a few days before Hrawi became president — but has not lived in Beirut.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency quoted a Lebanese presidential source as saying Hrawi also talked with Ryan Crocker, acting deputy chief of mission at the US embassy in Cairo.

The agency said Crocker has been appointed to replace McCarthy, which several Lebanese radio stations also have reported. Marcelle M. Wahba, spokeswoman at the Cairo embassy, confirmed the McCarthy meeting, but denied that Crocker had attended the meeting or has been appointed ambassador to Lebanon.

The United States has had no ambassador in Lebanon since last September because of continuing warfare in Beirut. McCarthy lives in Washington.

"Egypt can play a role in Lebanon because of the two countries' close historical relations," Al-Baz, Mubarak's chief political adviser told reporters after the presidential meeting.

"Egypt can use its role in the Arab world and its international position in the interest of the Lebanese issue."

He said Egypt supports Lebanese legitimacy and consolidation of Hrawi's governmental authority over the country based on an agreement reached among Lebanese leaders in Taif, Saudi Arabia.

In remarks distributed by the Middle East News Agency Al-Baz said Hrawi and Mubarak discussed Egyptian military help for the Lebanese army.

He refused to give details, but said the Lebanese side "will be satisfied with results of the current discussion."

Hrawi, who will go on to Libya and Tunisia, also said he would seek Cairo's "continued efforts" to secure Israel's withdrawal from its south Lebanon security zone. He said he would ask Egypt for arms to help him establish his authority over his war-torn country.

"Egypt is one of the countries which produces military equipment and has a lot in its large arsenal to help Lebanon revive its army," he told reporters.

Lebanese rebel army General Michel Aoun was quoted in Kuwait today renewing his attack against the Taif accord and saying he will not breach the current fragile ceasefire in east Beirut.

Aoun, in an interview with Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Sayassah, again claimed that the Taif accord — a peace plan for Lebanon brokered by the Arab League — has become outdated and that the agreement was originally born with deficiencies.

Rival Christian forces skirmished with mortars and automatic rifles in east Beirut overnight. Police said today one person was wounded in the intermittent exchanges. (AP)

Syria's chief intelligence officer Brigadier Ghazi Kanaan in Lebanon was mediating between rival Shi'ite Muslim factions whose battles over the past three years have killed more than 950 people, Muslim political sources said today. (Reuters)

Former US sergeant gets life sentence for spying

KOBLENZ, West Germany, June 6, (UPI): A West German court today gave life imprisonment to a retired US Army sergeant after finding him guilty of selling military secrets to communist governments, putting the country and US troops there at risk.

The judge said that Clyde Lee Conrad, 42, had been paid more than 2.2 million West German marks (\$1.3 million) by the then communist governments of Hungary and Czechoslovakia, between 1975 and 1985.

Secret service experts say this is the highest known fee paid to an agent.

The prosecutor said that Conrad's activities had endangered not only West Germany but also the 250,000 US troops stationed in the country.

Conrad, a native of Bergholz, Ohio, was a document custodian with the US forces in West Germany for five years before he retired in 1985.

West Germany's chief federal prosecutor Kurt Rebmann said last week that Conrad

case was the worst case of high treason his office ever dealt with.

"There has been no treason case of an even remotely comparable weight," he said.

He said that military experts believed that if Conrad's spying activities had not been uncovered, West Germany may have faced the choice of either having to use strategic nuclear weapons or "having to give up the defence of the Federal Republic of Germany."

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US credibility 'put to the test'

Israel offers proof that PLO violates promise

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 6, (AP): Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said today that US credibility was being "put to the test" after Israel offered proof that the PLO violated its promise to desist from terrorism.

Arens made the statement in a speech to Parliament renewing Israel's demand that the United States cancel its dialogue with the PLO.

The foreign minister also lashed out at European countries for criticising Israel, noting that Jews had a "tragic history" in Europe and adding that Jewish state did not need to be prodded to make peace.

Arens, replying to Soviet threats to curtail

Jewish emigration unless Israel blocks Soviet settlement in the occupied territories, said the number of Soviet immigrants moving there "is minuscule, a fraction of a per cent."

During an argument with an Arab legislator, Arens also contended the occupied West Bank and Gaza were "part of the land of Israel."

The focus of Arens' 20-minute speech was the US dialogue with the PLO, which Israel boycotts as a "terrorist organisation."

Israel has been demanding an end to the US-PLO talks since they opened soon after PLO chairman Yasser Arafat publicly denounced terrorism and recognised Israel in

December 1988.

In his speech, Arens said Israel had offered proof of PLO involvement in an aborted seaborne attack on Israel's coast a week ago that was claimed by the Palestine Liberation Front led by Mohammed Abbas. Abbas is a member of the PLO executive committee.

"The credibility of the American claim that there will be no dialogue with the PLO if it continues to deal in terrorism is being put to the test," Arens added.

Arafat has so far refused US demands to condemn the attack, saying the PLO had no connection with it.

Israel will stop Arab expulsions

Shamir races to form govt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 6, (Agencies): Israel's military administration in the occupied territories will stop expelling Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip without residency permits, the state attorney's office says.

The announcement came as the state attorney's office responded yesterday to a Supreme Court appeal filed by the 15 Palestinians belonging to families separated by the army's practice.

Some 250 deported wives and children of Palestinians will be able to return to the West Bank, under the new Israeli policy.

The change of heart by the military government on the occupied territories follows months of intense international and domestic pressure to reunite the broken families.

Most of the 250 deported to Jordan last year were women visitors who overstayed visas after marrying Palestinians, and their children.

The families said the practice is "unreasonable, directed by alien demographic and political considerations and contradicts the principles of international law," the national news agency Iim said.

The state attorney's office responded by saying Arabs living in the Israeli-occupied territories would from now on be allowed to ask for a residency status for members of their families and would be allowed to live in the territories unless there is a "specific negative security reason" to deny the request, Iim said.

The state attorney's office said Palestinians without residency permits would have the status of "visitors" and would be allowed to reside permanently with their families. They would also be able to reaffirm their status without leaving for abroad and then returning on temporary guest visas, as they had to do until now.

They would be allowed to apply for permanent residency and, even if denied, could still continue to live in the territories with their families.

"This provides a realistic solution to the humanitarian problem of separation between the appellants and their wives and children," Iim quoted the government's representative, attorney Meni Mazoz, as saying.

Meanwhile, caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir raced today to forge what political allies and the press called a government of "right-wing crazies" as a deadline to end Israel's political crisis approached.

Shamir, 74, has until Friday to tell President Chaim Herzog whether he can form a coalition to replace a left-right cabinet that broke up 83 days ago over his refusal to accept US Middle East peace proposals.

Aides said Shamir's rightist Likud Party would muster a parliamentary majority in a confidence vote early next week despite last-minute difficulties in getting signed commitments from far-right and religious partners.

■ The commander of the West German destroyer Bayern said today he was uneasy when the warship approached Israel for an unprecedented visit, but that he and his crew have since been overwhelmed by a warm welcome.

Pledge to retaliate

NICOSIA, June 6, (Reuters): Libya, repeating denials it was involved in a Palestinian seaborne raid on Israel, said today it would respond with "all firmness and severity" to any Israeli retaliatory attack.

A foreign ministry statement said charges of Libyan involvement were part of "the Zionist enemy's policy and his aggressive designs against Libya."

"Any aggressive act targeting Libya will be confronted with all firmness and severity," said the statement on the official news agency Jana, monitored in Cyprus.

Israel said commandos of the Palestine Liberation Front left Libya aboard a Libyan merchant ship that dropped six speedboats off the Israeli coast.

■ A mini-Arab summit will be held in Tripoli on Monday on the sidelines of Libyan celebrations for the evacuation of Italian forces, said Arab diplomatic sources.

PLO sits tight at American threats

TUNIS, June 6, (Reuters): The PLO is sitting tight against US threats to break off contacts because the organisation cannot risk flying in the face of an angry anti-American mood among Palestinians, PLO officials say.

Washington is investigating a Palestinian commando raid on the Israeli coast last Wednesday to see if it violated the PLO anti-terrorism pledge which made the dialogue possible.

The 15-man Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is meeting in Baghdad to discuss US demands that it condemn the raid and take action against Mohammed Abbas, the Executive Committee member whose group made the raid.

But PLO officials in Tunis said that publicity about the US demands had been counterproductive.

"The PLO won't respond in the way the US wants. It's an attempt to blackmail us and we can't afford to seem to be dictated to," a senior PLO official told Reuters today.

"There's a popular feeling among Palestinians that a response was justifiable. The mood is angry and aggressively anti-American at the moment. The mood is to talk tough and not give in to them," he said.

"The PLO is keen on emphasising that despite the position declared by Arafat, that neither it nor any of its forces was responsible for this operation, circles still continue their call (to cut US-PLO talks)," a PLO spokesman said in a statement carried by Arab news agencies from Baghdad.

"This means there is an intention to use this operation as a cover to suspend the dialogue," the spokesman added.

A peace mission headed by former US Senator Charles Percy today urged American President George Bush to help stem a growing threat of Arab-Israeli violence and war.

"The Bush administration should take reasonable risks for peace right now, before it is too late," the Illinois Republican told a news conference at the end of a three-week tour by 44 US and Canadian citizens.

Percy read a group statement that expressed "extreme concern and sense of impending violence on a much larger scale than exists today in the occupied territories as well as in the region."

A senior Palestinian official lashed at the United States for vetoing the Security Council resolution to send a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories.

Member of the PLO Executive Committee Yasser Arafat, in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, described the American veto as a contempt to the Arab's capabilities and resolutions.

Hani Al Hassan the political advisor of Arafat warned against a new Israeli aggression on Jordan and called for halting Israel from crossing the Jordanian river.

Speaking with a Kuwaiti daily, the Palestinian official said that "if the Israelis were able to cross the Jordanian river, then speaking about the West Bank and Gaza Strip will end and discussion will involve the Israeli withdrawal from Jordan."

■ Greek Catholic Archbishop Hilarion Capucci today ended a 15-day hunger strike he observed in Rome to support the Palestinian cause, the Arab League office reported.



A Palestinian captured by Israel in foiled sea raid last week is interviewed by state-run Israeli television on Tuesday. The commando, who identified himself as Ahmed Mohammed Youssef said he belonged to the Palestine Liberation Front led by PLO executive member Mohammed Abbas and said the purpose of the attack on May 30 was to land at Tel Aviv and kill as many people as possible. Israeli troops killed four commandos and captured 12 in the raid. There were no Israeli casualties. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aim was to kill

Captured Arab says on raid

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 6, (Reuters): State-run Israeli media yesterday broadcast an interview with a captured Palestinian commando who said the aim of a foiled sea raid last Wednesday was to land at Tel Aviv and "kill every civilian in sight."

The interview was arranged by the Israeli Army in what a government official described as a drive to pressure the United States to cut its ties with the PLO over the raid by the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), a PLO member.

A senior Israeli official said it was delayed until after the Bush-Gorbachev summit because Israel was concerned it might not receive sufficient coverage.

The government press office provided an English translation of the interview just as it was aired on both Israeli radio and the television's Hebrew and Arabic services.

PLF leader Mohammed Abbas, known as Abu Abbas, has been quoted as saying the raid was aimed at a resort for senior Israeli Army officers.

The commando, who identified himself as Ahmed Mohammed Youssef, or Abu Ashash, told Israeli radio that the Libyan-trained PLF squad was to have fired machine-guns and Katyusha rockets at Tel Aviv hotels from the sea.

"Then we were to come ashore and kill every civilian in sight on the beach and in the streets, and afterwards to enter the hotels and kill everyone seen inside," said the Syrian-born Youssef.

"My personal mission was to enter the Sheraton Hotel. They told me: 'Go in and do not leave anyone alive. Kill everyone—children, women and elderly people. Do not leave anyone alive.'"

Troops foiled the raid without Israeli casualties. They captured five commandos off the coast north of Tel Aviv and killed four and captured seven who made it to shore near a beach packed with Jewish holidaymakers south of Tel Aviv.

Israel's repressive practices and accused Israel of intentionally putting obstacles before a peaceful settlement and striving to prolong its occupation of Arab lands.

Soviet deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Belonogov made the remarks while receiving here yesterday participants in the third Soviet-Arab dialogue currently held in Moscow.

"We do not see Soviet-Arab relations as a clear sky. Unfortunately, there appeared a storm-cloud there. I mean the problem of Soviet Jews' immigration in Israel," Belonogov said.

He noted the illegal character of immigrants' settlement in the occupied Arab territories and

Third Soviet-Arab dialogue in Moscow: officials concerned over Palestinian rights' violation

MOSCOW, June 6, (Kuna): A senior Soviet official has reiterated that Soviet-Arab relations are of stable character and there is a clear tendency towards the development of co-operation between the two sides.

Chairman of the Soviet Afro-Asian solidarity committee Mikhail Kapitsa warned earlier that extremism in the Middle East was threatening outbreak of extensive military conflagration.

Kapitsa also expressed real concern over Israel's gross violations of Palestinian rights in the occupied Arab lands.

The official, who is just back from a fact-finding tour of Israeli-occupied Arab territories, recounted

spoke of the Soviet Union's struggle on the international arena, including in the United Nations, to stop such a practice. "We are for human rights but it is necessary not to infringe upon other people's rights," he said.

A settlement in the Middle East is a Soviet foreign policy's priority, Belonogov said. He expressed regret that there was no progress in this direction lately.

Belonogov highly assessed the current stand of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, noting that "the Palestinian leadership's constructive policy makes it evident who is to blame for the confrontation in the region." He said the Soviet Union was



Moroccans march for Palestinians

About 30,000 Moroccans marched in support of the Palestinian cause on Tuesday, chanting anti-US slogans as they delivered a protest message to the Rabat bureau of the United States.

It was the first mass demonstration for decades in the Moroccan capital, officially authorised and organised by opposition parties, trade unions and human rights groups, under the banner of the Moroccan Association for the Support of the Palestinian Struggle.

Carrying dozens of individual banners denouncing a US veto of a Security Council resolution to send a UN mission to observe events in Israeli-occupied

territories, the demonstrators were joined by Islamic fundamentalists chanting "the religion of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) will prevail."

A US embassy official said no extra security measures were taken except to advise the embassy staff not to park their cars near the route of the march.

Trade unionists said in a statement that Moroccans should boycott all US activities, including receptions and cultural events.

No incidents were reported as the procession marched along the city walls watched by large crowds. Police surveillance was minimal. (Reuters wirephoto)

Fraud impossible in Algerian polls

Monitoring to be done by judges, multi-party observers

ALGIERS, June 6, (Reuters): Fraud will be virtually impossible in Algeria's first free elections next week because of monitoring by judges and multi-party observers, the Interior Ministry's director of elections said today.

"Voting and counting will be done in the presence of all political parties," Abdelkader Al Amari told Reuters in an interview.

"Results will be practically impossible to manipulate at any level." More than 13 million Algerians are eligible to vote for municipal and provincial councils next Tuesday in the first multi-party poll since independence in 1962.

The fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front, the strongest opposition party to challenge the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), has already said it fears fraud.

But Amari said an electoral law adopted by Parliament last year allowed for observers designated by all competing political parties and independent lists at every stage of the process.

"The counting will be public. The political parties will be present," Amari said.

Five voters will be designated by the provincial governor to supervise each voting station. Counting in each municipality will be supervised by a commission.

Final results will be tabulated within 49 hours of the closing of the polls by a provincial commission composed of three magistrates appointed by the Justice Ministry.

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Ethiopia peace Govt agrees to UN observers

ADDIS ABABA, June 6, (Reuters): The Ethiopian government, its army locked in fierce fighting with Eritrean rebels, has signalled a key policy shift which could open the way to full-blown peace talks on ending Africa's longest civil war.

The government of President Mengistu Haile Mariam said in a statement that it would allow the United Nations to act as an observers to peace negotiations with the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF).

"This is an enormous breakthrough. It is extremely important in unlocking the current log-jam and getting the talks going," one Western diplomat told Reuters.

Saharan talks begin

Referendum discussed

GENEVA, June 6, (Reuters): Tribal chiefs from the western Sahara began discussing a planned self-determination referendum for the disputed territory with UN officials yesterday after two days of wrangling over who should take part.

Swiss diplomat Johannes Manz, the United Nations special envoy for the region, told 38 tribal leaders at a formal opening ceremony they could make a valuable contribution to peace by advising the world body on a poll on the territory's future.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar offered a peace plan in August 1988 proposing a ceasefire between Morocco, which controls four-fifths of the disputed, mineral-rich territory, and nationalist guerrillas who are seeking its independence.

That truce would be followed by a poll, possibly next December, to decide whether they wanted to be part of Morocco or to be an independent state.

Morocco seized and colonised most of the western Sahara, a phosphate-rich, mostly desert land half the size of France, when Spain withdrew as colonial master 15 years ago.

Turkey rapped for Euphrates impasse

BAGHDAD, June 6, (AP): A government minister condemned Turkey over its failure to reach an agreement with Iraq on sharing the water of the Euphrates river, in an interview published today.

Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi told the government-owned weekly Alif Bas that the conflict over water resources is very serious and could harm stability in the region.

"It is regrettable the Turkish side has not been serious in giving due attention to the issue ... which we consider very important not only because of Iraq's interests but also because of its importance in the long run for the stability of the region," he was quoted as saying.

Al Chalabi, who headed the Iraqi team in negotiations over the water sharing, said the problem is threatening the development of relations and accused Turkey of turning a deaf ear to Iraq's appeal to solve the problem through negotiations.

He also accused the Turkish side of ignoring the issue during a visit by Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut to Iraq last month.

"We asked them during preparatory talks to give utmost priority to the water problem at the prime minister's talks but he came with 200 delegates without one single water specialist with him," Al Chalabi said.

"This is a real obstacle on the road to developing relations between the two countries," he warned.

Turkey diverted much of the Euphrates water last January for a month to start filling the giant reservoir at the Ataturk Dam, centrepiece of a major hydroelectric and irrigation project in their impoverished southeastern provinces.

The Turkish action triggered protests in Iraq and Syria, who feared damage to their agriculture and a worsening of international quarrels over scarce water resources.

Al Chalabi expressed hope that Turkey will show more flexibility during talks between irrigation officials of Iraq, Syria and Turkey later this month, which Iraq wants to end with a new accord on water sharing that would be in the interests of the three countries.

He said Turkey's decision to fill the Ataturk Dam will damage agriculture in Iraq and will seriously affect development projects in the southern part,

Constantine city of resistance

Weakened by old age

CONSTANTINE, Algeria, June 6, (Reuters): Perched on a rock in the Algerian heartland, straddling a treacherous gorge, Constantine takes pride in a long history of fierce resistance to invading armies.

But more insidious enemies—weather, old age and neglect—are eating away at the foundations of the old city built by Berber kings, Roman emperors, Turkish beys and French colonial governors.

"If we do not get rapid help, either from Algeria or from Unesco (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation), the old city could entirely disappear," said Ahmed Benyahia, president of the Association for the Defence of the Old Rock of Constantine.

Constantine is a city of bridges, staircases and elevators cut into rock. Tree-lined esplanades, packed with outdoor cafes, overlook the rich plains of Algeria's hinterland.

Pedestrians are used to crossing suspension bridges swaying in the breeze at dizzying heights across the Rhumel Gorge 180 metres (590 feet) below.

Legend says Turkish beys used to put unfaithful women in sacks and toss them off the cliff—with a cat inside to maul them as they went down.

More glorious parts of Constantine's history include a state founded by the Berber king Massinissa in the second century before Christ, making it the oldest continuously inhabited city in Algeria and one of the oldest in the world.

Emperor Constantine changed the name from Ciria when he rebuilt the city after Roman civil wars in 313.

Residents still delight in telling visitors of the fierce battle in 1836 to defeat French invaders. The city fell a year later but only after the governor of French colonies in North Africa, General Damremont, was killed.

Ahmed Bey, the last Turkish ruler, retreated to the Aurès mountains to the south and led resistance to the French for a further 11 years.

Constantine had only a relatively small European population under the French and most non-Muslims were Oriental Jews—nearly one-fifth of the population in the 1940s.

The synagogue is now an Islamic cultural centre and little remains of the Jews but names on the French-built war monument.

"Constantine is different from other Algerian cities like Oran and Algiers because it is an ancient city with an old established population. This city kept its Algerian personality throughout the colonial period," said Abdelkrim Badjadja, director of the local archives.

But much of Constantine's heritage is now endangered and some of the old Turkish and French-era core is literally tumbling into the ravine.

Traditional stone and mud houses in the old city, known as Souika, are collapsing through lack of care and water infiltration. Dozens have already been razed.

International detente will aid development: Awadi

Call for re-channelling of resources

GENEVA, June 6, (Kuna): Addressing the thirty-seventh session of the governing council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the assistant undersecretary at the Ministry of Planning of Kuwait, Mariam Abdul Karim Al Awadi, said that the new spirit of international detente has created a positive environment for development co-operation.

Awadi noted that this newly emerging spirit of co-operation and rapprochement will assist in global efforts to deal with social and economic problems. She further hoped that the politics of detente would

not cause a shift of interest from the Third World.

New strategies have to be implemented as the dimensions of the debt problem have expanded to an extent that it has become "a burden on the shoulders of developing countries," Awadi noted.

She pointed out that His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Saud Al Jaber Al Sabah, has already provided positive input into methods of alleviating the debt problem based on principles of justice, a sense of participation, and the notion of selflessness.

New strategies to deal with this de facto calls for co-operation between debtor

countries and donor ones with the goal of common benefit, rather than confrontation.

Responsibilities

The Kuwaiti official called upon developed countries to assume their responsibilities in the aim of curing the ill situation of underdeveloped countries which is affecting their economic stability.

Awadi observed that the new decade should be one of strategic co-operation in international development which would take into consideration the needs of developing countries, particularly focusing on human aspects of development.

She insisted that through international co-operation "horrible facts," such as poverty, sickness, hunger, and malnutrition, can be erased, otherwise these may impede any development efforts.

Arms producing countries should also curb their production and Awadi suggested a re-channelling of resources towards solving development problems of many countries.

Awadi welcomed the independence of Namibia and its presence in the United Nations as a full member, and hoped that the day would come soon when a similar welcome may be extended to the state of Palestine.

Pay greater attention to industry: Fassam

Kuwaiti exports fund proposed

A SENIOR industrial official has called upon the government to set up a fund to finance Kuwaiti exports. Chairman of the Kuwaiti Chemical Manufacturing Co. Ibrahim Al Fassam has stressed the importance of such a fund at present. He also called upon the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to pay greater attention to national industries and complete the project of setting up the Public Authority for Industry to supervise industrial strategy in the country.

Fassam said that the proposed petrochemical complex to be established by Kuwait will face stiff competition from Europe and we have to prepare ourselves well for it. He said that a wave of "unhealthy" competition has been going on in Kuwait as well as in the Gulf states concerning chemical and petrochemical products.

The Gulf states do not implement the economic agreement in its entire terms. Some obstacles are put before the Kuwaiti products. For example, Fassam stressed, Kuwaiti products do not get the same priority as Saudi products in other Gulf states.

Competition

Fassam added that unhealthy competition also prevails at present between the Gulf states and among producers in Kuwait. The lack of co-ordination among producers themselves and between them and the Ministry of Commerce helped aggravate the situation.

Some producers even produce materials without official licence. Among other reasons for the unhealthy competition Al Fassam said is the small market in the country. The market purchasing power has even sharply gone down and this has greatly affected the level of service and quality of products. Fassam added that all these factors combined to force the bankruptcy of several companies in the country.

Fassam hoped that the government of Kuwait will make some contacts with Gulf governments concerning the marketing of national products. He stressed on the fact that as concessions and facilities provided to the various factories in the Gulf differ, competition can't be even. He added that industrialists in Kuwait have already brought this to the notice of the concerned

officials in the government. He said that they have been writing to the government about such problems facing the national industries particularly the petrochemicals and chemicals, over the past 3 years. He added "we have heard that some of the problems are to be resolved soon."

Workshops

Fassam revealed that plans are ready to set up central maintenance workshops for identical industries in Kuwait in order to prevent each project establishing its own maintenance back-up and thus doubling overall expenses. But he said that the Shuaiba Industrial Area's management is the side responsible for carrying out such a project adding that so far no practical measures have been taken.

He warned of a fierce war particularly from European countries against the proposed multi-million mega-petrochemicals project. He said that measures against Kuwait getting modern technology for the project

besides a media campaign against it is expected. He said that it is supposed that government officials are aware of such a war. He hoped that the project, which is still in the planning stage and may get underway after at least two years, won't be put aside like a previous identical project.

Fassam admitted that government aid to the national industry is there but added it is still not up to the desired level. "There is still scope for supporting national industry and giving it the necessary cares," he stressed. He described the level of government aid to industry as at its "minimum" level. Asked about the benefits of setting up a fund for supporting and financing Kuwaiti exports, Fassam said it will enable Kuwaiti factories operate their presently unexploited manufacturing capacities. He said that the government is not paying enough attention to setting up such a fund simply because "there is not enough attention to industry."

Area authority project stalled

GOVERNMENT authorities should accord more attention to the official affairs of the Shuaiba Industrial Area, says Abdul Karim Al Zamel, acting director general of area's general directorate.

Speaking to a local daily, the official said that the General Industrial Areas Authority Project was stalled as some ministries were unwilling to hand over some of their power to the new authority and attributing this to a lack of trust in the capabilities of the Shuaiba Directorate.

He said that there is no relation between the functions of the General Shuaiba Directorate and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, adding that both sides have shown a lack of understanding of each other's views, including discussions to arrive at appropriate solutions.

Instructions

He went on to state that the Shuaiba General Directorate is supervised by the minister of commerce and industry. However, due to the minister's many other engagements, instructions were transmitted to the directorate through non-official ministry employees. He added that the directorate is unable to accept such forms of instructions, despite the high level of co-ordination that previously existed between the directorate and the ministry.

He said that such co-ordination would give the directorate a strong incentive for more work and accomplishments, but, unfortunately, such incentives appeared to be absent due to lack of co-ordination. He indicated that authorisations appointed to Shuaiba General Directorate have not been developed for the past 20 years and it is high time that the ministry begins paying more attention to the role of industry in the country in general. He commented that the ministry has long given commerce and stock exchange markets more concern over the past few years.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EEC envoys

KUWAIT, June 6, (Kuna): Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Suleiman Majid Al Shabeh yesterday received ambassadors of EEC to Kuwait, headed by Italian Ambassador Marco Colombo whose country is currently chairing the EEC.

Well-informed sources at the Foreign Ministry said that talks, during the meeting tackled some resolutions adopted by the recent extraordinary Arab summit in Baghdad.

Sabah receives

KUWAIT, June 6, (Kuna): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber yesterday received Kuwait's ambassadors to Bahrain and Pakistan, Faisal Al Hajj and Qasim Omar Al Yagout.

Bahraini visit

KUWAIT, June 6, (Kuna): Bahrain's Minister of Development and Industry and Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Yusuf Al Sherawi yesterday arrived here on a two-day visit to Kuwait.

The Bahraini minister was received upon arrival by Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa Al Athbi and Bahrain's Ambassador to Kuwait Essa Al Jamea.

Sherawi, in an arrival statement to Kuna, said that his periodical visit to Kuwait is aimed at discussing joint projects and bilateral relations.

GCC trade

RIYADH, June 6, (Kuna): The 15th session for Gulf Co-operation Council's trade ministers opened at the GCC headquarters last night under chairmanship of Omani Trade Minister Salem Bin Abdullah Al Ghazali, whose country is heading the current GCC session.

The trade ministers are to discuss allowing GCC nationals to practise greater commercial activity in any of the six members.

Other important issues are expected to be dealt with the aim of facilitating trade exchange among the member states.

GCC information

RIYADH, June 6, (Kuna): GCC information ministers held a meeting today at the venue of the GCC Secretariat General, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

In a statement to SPA, Dr Abdullah Al Jasser, director of Information Department at the GCC Secretariat General, said the GCC Secretariat on the outcome of the television programmes financed by the private sector as well as memorandums on co-operation of the press establishments in GCC member states.

In addition to that the ministers were briefed on a memorandum on information and cultural co-ordination with the international organisations.

Egypt message

KUWAIT, June 6, (Kuna): Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber yesterday received a message from Egyptian Deputy Premier, and Defence Minister Gen. Yousef Sabri Abu Talib.

The message was delivered by Abu Talib's special envoy Maj. Gen. Sibli in presence of Egyptian Ambassador to Kuwait Saeed Rifaat.

Later, Sheikh Sabah told newsmen that the message dealt with bilateral relations and means of furthering them.

Heroin smuggler

THE Criminal Court has sentenced a man to 15 years in jail and fined him KD15,000 and KD20,000 and ordered his car confiscated for attempting to smuggle one kilogramme of heroin into the country.

The court heard that the defendant had left for Turkey by car where he bought one kilogramme of heroin for KD2000 and hid the contraband under the back seat of his car and arranged to sell it to an intelligence officer for KD7500.

The police picked him up while counting the marked police money at his residence.



Computer training

A computer training course was concluded yesterday at the Training Centre of Business Studies College of Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet).

The course was attended by a number of employees from the ministries of education, oil, health and commerce and industry in addition to some employees from Kuwait Municipality, Kuwait News Agency (Kuna), the Oriental Centre for Consultation and Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The course lasted a month.

The assistant dean at the Business Studies College Dr. Jassim Al Omer gave away certificates to the graduates.

Audit Bureau

Advance control cuts expenditure: Waqayyan

THE HEAD of the Audit Bureau Faris Al Waqayyan has said that the bureau undertakes its controls functions over the government performance using two techniques, one involves advance control over tenders, contracts and commitments, which, when concluded, will encumber the government or others with obligations and commitments if the value thereof is KD 100,000 or more. The second technique involves subsequent control over expenditures made under the items of these commitments.

He told a local daily that the advance control technique has enabled the bureau to ensure safe honouring of all commitments and the subsequent control techniques led to the discovery of several financial violations and consequently led to the freezing of payments with arithmetical errors in most instances.

Control

He said that the active control function of the bureau led to a reduction in the number of financial violations compared with the situation in the past, due to the careful policy employed by the bureau and related agencies. This has resulted in the revision

of certain financial and accounting by-laws to sort out existing shortages.

Waqayyan lauded the existing level of co-operation between the bureau and various government concerns, adding that the spirit of co-operation permeating all dealings of the bureau with these concerns led to deepening the conviction that the bureau's role was not one of error-hunting, but actually serving public interest and protecting public money.

He stressed that all government concerns were financially controlled by the bureau except some which have been exempted from advance control. He added that the relevant laws did not specify the authority given to the bureau in exercising subsequent control over these same agencies; the intention is to ensure the fulfilment of set objectives.

He said that the bureau's reports for the previous years indicate the great sums of money saved or recovered due to errors or unjustifiable spending requirements.

He pointed out that the bureau will remain functioning the same under the new National Council as the bureau operates under

direct control of the Council of Ministers.

He added that due to the incessant work developments at the bureau, studies are being conducted to determine the feasibility to set up a permanent site for the bureau close to the Police Station in Sharq to be closely located to the Legal Advice and Legislation Department and Central Tenders Committee headquarters, due to the inter co-operation between all these concerns.

He stressed that the administrative development at the bureau seeks to step up the employees performance to get the work done more efficiently and in the shortest time needed. He added that this coupled by gradual Kuwaitisation of the bureau staff, despite its great dependence on experts from Arab countries who have greatly contributed to laying down the bases for the selection of qualified technical and planning cadres and drawing up control policies.

He added that the bureau continually organized courses for its staff which helped them keep abreast of all developments in the field and stepped up their skills.

Iraq-Iran

Summit to boost Gulf security

KUWAIT, June 6, (UPI): Kuwait yesterday expressed hope that a meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani would take place in the very near future to enhance security and stability in the Gulf.

"We hope the awaited meeting between President Saddam Hussein and President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani would take place as soon as possible," Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah told reporters.

"Kuwait and its partners in the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) had expressed satisfaction over the messages exchanged between the Iraqi and Iranian leaderships," Sheikh Sabah said. "These messages had created an atmosphere of optimism and hope in the region."

"The meeting between President Saddam Hussein and President Hashemi Rafsanjani would pave the way for solving all outstanding problems between their two countries and help strengthen the security and stability of the region," he said.

Sheikh Sabah just returned home from Saudi Arabia where he attended a meeting of foreign ministers of the six-nation GCC.

During their meeting, the GCC foreign ministers discussed the latest developments regarding Baghdad's relations with Tehran in light of the recent messages exchanged between the Iranian and Iraqi leaders.

In their final communiqué, the ministers praised Saddam for initiating direct messages with Rafsanjani.

The messages reportedly included a proposal for a summit meeting between Saddam and Rafsanjani.

The GCC, set up nine years ago groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The Gulf war ended in August 1988 but chances for reaching a permanent peaceful settlement between Iran and Iraq are still slim.

Wildlife workshop

RIYADH, June 6, (Kuna): Wildlife conservation experts met here yesterday to recommend how best development of Saudi Arabia could be sustained without harming the ecological balance.

The workshop, the second in a series, is entitled "Living Within Our Ecological Means," was opened at the headquarters of the National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development.

Participating experts will assist in drafting guidelines for laws calling for the conservation of the kingdom's flora and fauna land, evaluate how socio-economic factors should be taken into consideration if the destruction of the ecology is to be halted and redressed.

Besides presenting the local scenario, experts will also highlight the international perspectives of regulating the exploitation of the wildlife and plants.

According to the organisers, ten papers dealing with various aspects of conservation will be presented in light of Islamic principles for the conservation of natural resources in a changing world.

The two-day workshop will be attended by experts from the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology, meteorological and environment protection department and specialised centres of Saudi universities.

McDonnell to tour four GCC countries

JOHN F. McDonnell, chairman and chief executive officer of McDonnell Douglas Corp., has embarked on a two-week tour of the Middle East to meet with customers country dignitaries.

McDonnell who is already in the area will visit Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. McDonnell will meet with several high-level defence officials and the US ambassadors to each of the four countries.

In addition, McDonnell will discuss sales opportunities for the company's MD-11 tri-jet and the MD-80 and MD-90 twin-jets with representatives from the countries' airlines — Saudia, Gulf Air, Kuwait Airways and Emirates.

McDonnell also will visit the company's operations that support Saudi Arabia's F-15 Eagle fighter jets. McDonnell Douglas has delivered 62 F-15s to Saudi Arabia for air defence missions; another 12 aircraft are to be delivered in 1991 and 1992.

McDonnell Douglas is setting up similar operations in Kuwait, which has ordered 40 F/A-18 Hornet multi-role tactical aircraft. Deliveries will begin in early 1992 and end in 1994.



John F. McDonnell

Exhibition schedule announced

A BAHRAIN-based exhibition company will run six major events in 1991, it was announced recently, topping the one show to be staged later this year in Saudi Arabia.

Hilal Gulf Exhibitions, established in late 1989 as a division of the Al Hilal Group, will repeat Relex '90, the first annual building exhibition to cover the northern Gulf markets from Al Khobar with Relex '91 in Sharjah to cater to the southern Gulf.

Two further specialist shows, the Middle East Offshore and Maritime Show (Memoss) and a Food, Beverage and Catering Equipment Exhibition (Foodex) will also be staged at the US\$10 million purpose-built centre in the eastern province, the Dharan Expo Centre, in October 1991.

The organisers also have plans under way to penetrate the Far East exhibition markets with a catering show scheduled for Hong Kong and a maritime and building exhibition running back-to-back in Singapore. All three are scheduled for October and November.



Health science exams

The second semester examinations of the students of Health Science College for the academic year 1989/1990 began Tuesday at the premises of the boys students college situated in Rawdah area and the girls students college situated in Shuwaikh. Exams will last until June 16th, 1990. The semester groups about 450 girls and 120 boys.

Dealers blamed for price hikes

By Mahmood Abdeen

THE DEPUTY chairman of the board of directors at the Jeeb Al Shiyoukh Co-operative Society Mohammad Mubarak Al Mutairi has blamed the dealers for the price rise of commodities over the recent past.

He told Seyassah that the reason for the rise in the prices of some consumer commodities and food items is the request by the local agents and importers as a result of either a similar increase in the price of the commodity in the country of origin, or the greed of some dealers who capitalise on the high-selling quality of certain commodities and the absence of a reliable rival commodity in the market.

He said that the Kuwait Union of Co-operative Consumer Societies must play a more effective role to keep prices under control, adding that it must also try to provide alternative consumer commodities at reasonable prices to protect consumers and meet their requirements.

He said that the co-op refuses to make any increase in the prices unless the dealer presents his documents to the union and his request is studied by the pricing committee to verify his request for a price increase in line with union policies.

He added that the union is carrying out all necessary arrangements to ensure its performance to

meet the expansion and increasing work volume at the co-ops, and that the union has sponsored a number of training courses for co-op staff to upgrade their skills and capabilities.

He urged the union to unify the accounting policies enforced at the co-op in a manner to ensure tight internal control and also to unify the administrative systems through the use of experts from outside the union.

He pointed out that stepping up competition among co-ops will reflect positively on the prices, as co-ops now compete over commodities with sliding prices, and this will result in difficulties for the dealer to persuade 40 societies to jack up the prices of their commodities, instead of dealing with one agency.

He called for speeding up the issuance of the new co-operative law to meet with the new development in the co-operative movement in Kuwait, stressing the needs to spread co-operative education among people and to introduce a co-operative course into the general education curriculum.

He reviewed the main items which have undergone price increases, which included Red Label tea bags from 730 to 895, Fresh Kuwaiti lamb from 275 to 300, Seedawi tahina from 385 to 425, Nestle Milk Cream from 125 to 145, Lurpak butter from 390 to 480, Carnation milk from 70 to 80.

Al-Jawab

KD 1,289m worth projects in next plan

Sewage network being restored

By Husain Salama

MINISTER of Public Works, Abdul Rahman Al-Houti stated that the next five-year plan 1990-91 until 1994-95 is envisaged to be more expansive than the past plan.

He indicated that the total cost of projects included in the next five-year plan is estimated at KD 1,289 million.

Interviewed by Al-Sayassah he pointed out that one of the important projects in the next plan is the construction of the university building at a cost of KD 120 million in addition to completing the remaining three stages of the coastal front

project estimated at KD 40 million.

He said that the government started giving priority to specific projects since the 1950s. He explained that education and health projects were among the first priorities at the beginning of the first stage. After the completion of these projects, the minister added that the government is now passing through the stage of completing government establishments which represent the civilised front of the country.

He pointed out towards the express roads network, saying that the total cost of this network amounted to KD 355

million until the end of this month. He said that these costs do not include the construction of Subbiya bridge which has a different budget. Until this month, the Ministry of Public Works had spent a total of KD 158 million on express road projects all over the country. The minister added that future estimation for roads projects reached KD 197 million.

He described the project of developing Ardiya station as one of the main sanitary projects in the country.

He pointed out that after 35 years, the sewage and sanitary network in Kuwait

requires restoration and with this reasoning, the ministry has approved a study prepared by a consultant and started implementation. The sewage restoration project includes cleaning and renovating the current network. In addition it includes establishing two tunnels from Kuwait west to Sulabiya and south to Shuaiba. He stressed that such tunnels will assist in resolving sewage problems for a country like Kuwait which is geographically flat.

He disclosed that soon the ministry will reactivate many projects which were drawn from their original contractors.

Disabled face discrimination

Society, media blamed

THE government of Kuwait provides extensive financial assistance and many services to the handicapped and to obtain an overview, a local daily visited the Kuwait Handicapped Club and the Kuwait Society for Handicapped Care.

Majeda Al-Mhaisin stated that handicapped individuals in Kuwait, of whom she is one, have many problems. She said that they are viewed as being detrimental to the well-being of society and attributed this to a "one-sided view" projected by the media which focuses on the weaker aspects of the handicapped. Ironically, she said: "We feel handicapped right here in our own country, while we lead a normal life in foreign countries where the handicapped are treated as normal human beings."

She pointed out that in many instances when handicapped visit public places like markets, entertainment parks, etc., people do not comply with signs which indicate that areas are zoned for the handicapped — particularly handicapped parking. Another problem handicapped people experience is society's refusal to look favourably on a marriage of a handicapped person with a normal person.

Consideration
Atif Al-Dousari said that people do not realise that given the opportunity, handicapped people are just productive as other normal human beings. However, in certain instances, margins

should be provided to the handicapped and cited the case of self-service gasoline station that have started to spread out in the country and that do not take into consideration the situation of the handicapped.

She added that many government facilities have not taken into account the difficulties suffered by handicapped and these facilities were not designed to meet their requirements. She cited the case of handicapped parking lots at co-operative societies which do not have special side walks.

Abbas Al-Rashed hoped that in designing government housing, special consideration is accorded to the needs of handicapped individuals. He said that he would be quite willing to live at the Sawab Residential Complex, provided it was furnished to meet the needs of the handicapped.

Requirements
He pointed out that handicapped individuals have competed with international sides and several gold medals were awarded to Kuwaiti handicapped. However, due to the negligence of the media in covering such events such handicapped champions are not known in Kuwait.

Sukayna Al-Ameer, currently working as a supervisor at Kuwait Handicapped Club stressed that most entertainment locations in Kuwait did not pay attention to the requirements of the handicapped. She hoped that

the Public Housing Authority would give preferential allotment of government houses to the handicapped, including special facilities. She added that one of the main problems which most handicapped face at the society is the difficulty in finding a job after graduation.

Meanwhile, director of Kuwait Society for Handicapped Care, Hashem Taqi stated that at the society they are keen to provide the handicapped with many rehabilitation courses in addition to assisting them in self-dependence.

He pointed out that the Kuwaiti government has issued a special law to provide the handicapped with special facilities at public buildings and added that most recreational locations built recently such as the coastal front have considered setting up facilities for the handicapped.

Head of the Sports and Medical Committee at Kuwait Handicapped Club, Aki Fahad Al-Ghannam stated that the club constantly endeavours to remove any obstacles which handicapped may encounter on a daily basis. He added that many lectures and symposiums were held in order to facilitate the solving of problems. He said that in recent years, the Ministry of Housing has started to pay attention to handicapped requirements. He added that the General Traffic Department is highly appreciated for their co-operation with Kuwait Handicapped Society.

Secondary school exams begin

THE secondary education exams, arts and science, begins today and lasts until June 18.

A total of 21,246 students, boys and girls, will sit for the exams and 86 committees will supervise the progress of exams this year, 26 of them for boys and 17 for girls in the science division, while 5 committees for boys in the science and arts and 4 others for girls in the science and arts.

The committees for the arts divisions are 17 for boys and 17 for girls, distributed over all educational areas and located appropriately close to students residences.

Meanwhile, a local daily reported that the Education Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Rashman Al-Khodari yesterday went on a tour to review the preparations so far taken by the relevant ministry personnel for the start of the secondary education, science and arts exam. He listened to a detailed account from his assistant for information and students affairs Abdul Mohsen Al-Saeed and other officials supervising the pre-exam preparations.

He told a local daily that after his field visit to the exam centre he felt reassured that all necessary requirements were carefully considered and provided and that the exams will be conducted in air-conditioned halls where cool water supplies are available to students.

Diouf leaves UAE

ABU DHABI, June 6, (Kuna): President of Senegal Abdou Diouf ended a two-day private visit to the UAE and left here today.

During his visit, Diouf conferred with the UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahayan on Islamic issues and preparations for the upcoming summit of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), set for next January in Senegal.

Palestine charity dinner on Monday

KUWAIT, June 6, (Kuna): Head of the women branch of the Committee for Charitable Solidarity with Palestine and Lebanon today said that the committee will hold a charitable dinner, banquet at Kuwait Regency Palace hotel on Monday June 11.

Amma Al-Saeed said in a statement that the dinner banquet will take place within the committee's activities to raise funds for the so-called "uprising purse" project support of the Palestinian steadfastness to confront the Zionist atrocities.

She added that the aim of the "uprising purse" project is to offer one million Kuwaiti dinars to help the Palestinian finance a number of productive projects and employ the jobless people, as well as helping the families which have lost their supporters.

Support
Saeed added that the project also aims at supporting the inmates, and the wounded people.

She indicated that the committee was able during a four-month period to send 1,712,000 dollars to the victims of the Zionist "inhumane acts."

In conclusion, Saeed thanked the people of Kuwait for their benevolent stance toward their Palestinian brethren.

Sheikh Nasser appeals to end sectarianism

(Continued from Page 1)

Kuwaiti society." He said that distributing cassettes, leaflets, faxes and discrediting Kuwait in the international media can only harm national solidarity, that has characterised "our society" for centuries and provided it with a way out of difficulties.

"Leniency from HH the Amir — the father of all Kuwaitis — was interpreted as weakness and over-sensitivity by some leads to doubt act of goodwill," stated Sheikh Nasser adding that this has presented Kuwait with another problem to deal with. "A nation's destiny cannot be decided by over-reaction and tension."

"If what is happening is caused by worries about the fate of the National Assembly, these worries are unjustified," said Sheikh Nasser asserting that the National Council is constitutional. "This unrest could be fabricated by some to create electoral platforms for the future."

Sheikh Nasser called for rewarding all "those who will vote in the elections on Sunday to save Kuwait" and asserted that the nation, not the government, will wipe out the opposition. "We are not a terrorist country. In our whole political history we've never had one political prisoner. The government will not do anything illegal," he added.

The speaker hoped that the basis for selecting the 25 appointed members to the National Council will be educational and professional merit rather than political balance.

"Kuwait should come first. When it comes to the well-being of our country, all our differences should end," concluded Sheikh Nasser, who said that he was speaking as a Kuwaiti citizen and not as a member of the ruling family.

Capital Traffic Dept closed

THE Director-General of General Traffic Department Brigadier Abdulhamid Hajji Abdulrahman said that the Traffic department at the Capital Governorate will receive no transactions during the office hours of Thursday, June 7, 1990 due to the programmed electricity cut for the maintaining of commissioning stations.

యమద్వారాజు సంకమం సంగీరామమూర్తి న్యాయంకావాలిమూర్తి బిస్మిత్ ప్రసాద్ మిర్జా ధిర్జిత్ సింగ్ చిల్డ్రన్స్ హిస్టరీ టియగర్ బి.ఎల్.మిర్జా KHALISTIA VIDEO, MURGADE, 220130

Qatari crown prince in Syria

Qatari heir apparent and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani is greeted by the Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam

in Damascus. The ministers will hold talks on ways of achieving Arab solidarity and promoting bilateral co-operation in several fields.

Drop in drug-related crimes

KUWAIT's contribution to the ministerial summit conference on drugs control and combating cocaine held in London from April 9 to 11 this year included a working paper which listed details of crimes involving drugs in Kuwait.

The paper presented at the conference highlighted that 1986 witnessed the highest rate of drug-related crimes in Kuwait, in contrast to the rate recorded in 1989, indicating that drug problem and addicts in Kuwait are in a state of retreat.

The paper revealed that the total number of cases involving smuggled drugs recorded over the period from 1985 to 1989 is 144, while the number of cases of trading in drugs totalled 128 and that of cases involving use of drugs is 86.

The paper also revealed the percentage of females involved in drug-related cases over the same period was 6.5 per cent but the percentage dropped to 2 per cent in 1989, involving only four females from a total of 243 suspects.

The paper said that the drug problem was common among people aged from 31 to 36, and those aged from 25 to 30 came next. It added that details collected from the Narcotics Department that there are specified types of drugs that are most commonly used in the Kuwaiti society, such as hashish, heroin, opium, marijuana, cannabis, qat and pills such as Bindex, Doloxine, valium and keptagon.

The paper said that 19 kilograms of hashish was confiscated in 1985, 1.5 of heroin, 2 of opium, 11,822 pills of keptagon, 254 valium while in 1988 84 kilograms of hashish were confiscated, 4 kilograms of opium and a total number of 8,413,627 drug pills, mostly keptagon, as more than 8 millions pills were confiscated, which shows a steady increase in the quantities of confiscated contraband.

The paper underlined the close relation between the social status of the person and the drug smoking problem, as the problem seemed widely common among the married, with a percentage reaching 71.7 per cent compared to 23.52 per cent among bachelors and 2.45 per cent among the divorced, according to statistics in 1989.

Junior Four pupils at Sunshine graduate

24 to begin senior school

ON Sunday, June 3, at 7.00 pm, the Sunshine School held its Third Annual Graduation at the Regency Palace Hotel, to congratulate the school's 24 Junior 4 pupils who will start senior education in September.

Four hundred parents of Junior pupils at the school attended the function along with guest speaker Dr Yacoub Al-Sharrah, assistant under-secretary (Private Schools Dept.) at the Ministry of Education, their excellencies, the British, Belgian and Turkish ambassadors and honoured guests from the other British schools in Kuwait.

Each of the 24 graduating pupils was presented with a certificate to mark the completion of the primary stage of education, and ten of the pupils received prizes for excellence and achievement in various subject areas.

This year's special award for the European Council of International Schools was presented to Reham Tarek Amin, who has been a pupil at the Sunshine School since 1981. Reham received the ECIS Award for International Understanding in recognition of her achievement in practising the principles of good international citizenship and her commitment to goodwill and understanding amongst all peoples.

In their speeches, Dr Yacoub Al-Sharrah and Sadiq Al-Mutawa the school's chairman praised the efforts of the pupils and staff for maintaining the established high standards of the Sunshine School and expressed their hopes for continued success.

The high point of the graduation ceremony was marked by a presentation of songs and dances by all the Junior pupils in attendance, which delighted the audience. The evening concluded with a buffet served to guests, parents and pupils.



Dr Yacoub Al-Sharrah (centre) pictured with Sadiq and Vera Mutawa.



Reham Tarek Amin



Top pupils with the winners shield.



Graduating Junior Four students.



Egyptian dance by Juniors.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

"IMPOSSIBLE" is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools — Napoleon Bonaparte, French general-statesman (1769-1821).

Jordanian pluralism

Devolution hits a snag

AMMAN, Jordan, (CSM): King Hussein's rapid drive to broaden power-sharing in Jordan appears to be alienating some conservatives and traditionalists.

Once the hardcore of support for the Hashemite kingdom, these self-proclaimed loyalists perceive a grave danger to the regime from the democratisation process that was launched after violent riots in April 1989.

"Those who benefited from the previous era are dissatisfied with changes which they fear threaten to undermine their privileges," says Taher Masi, a former prime minister.

This resistance to change has surfaced over the last two months in the form of underground leaflets. Titled by fictitious names and organisations, the leaflets accuse leftists of "controlling the press and designing to destroy the country."

Dissenting

The size and influence of the dissenting elements — who are believed to include former officials, retired Army and security officers, and traditional dignitaries in rural areas — is in dispute.

Hani Horani, a leftist activist and author of socioeconomic studies on Jordan, says, "They might not be big in numbers, but (they are) very influential in terms of their connections in the various government and security institutions."

A leading political scientist is more circumspect. "There is no evidence that these groups are behind the leaflets," he says. "But doubtless the inclusion of new sectors which were considered enemies of the regime, such as the leftist groups, in decision-making is offsetting the previous balance of power."

Extreme nationalists and those who have lost influential posts fear or suspect the transformation from a society heavily dependent on repressive security to one of pluralism.

But Jordanians and Palestinians — who make up half the population — still remember the 1970 civil war between the Army and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Many hope the democratisation process will foster national unity. Factionalism between Jordanians of Palestinian origin would not only be a potential threat to the democratic experiment but could also serve Israeli claims that Jordan is itself Palestine, say some Jordanian officials.

Congress

King Hussein is also concerned about the threat of sectarianism and has shifted his strategy to include the country's previously banned leftist groups in the political debate. This reconciliation by the palace with the left is seen as aimed at reducing the influence of the Muslim Brotherhood, which won some 32 seats out of 80 in parliamentary elections last November. The Brotherhood has been pressing the government for changes in the country's Western lifestyle.

The Brotherhood, the only political organisation tolerated by the government for the last three decades as a counterweight to the left, is resisting the end of its exclusive status and the legalisation of leftist groups.

Islamic deputies in parliament have openly attacked the abolition of the 1953 anticommunist law, while the Brotherhood has unsuccessfully tried to wrest leadership of the influential professional associations from the left.

According to well-placed sources, there are even indications that the Brotherhood is co-operating with disgruntled traditionalists to counter "the expansion of the left."

But unlike the past, the conflict in Jordan is no longer between the establishment and the left. "The secular forces are finally uniting," says Laith Sharaa, a former Jordanian information minister.

Many politicians, however, see the conflict in the broader terms of pro- and anti-democratisation forces. Within this context, both sectarianism and divisions between the Jordanians and the Palestinians are viewed as the most effective tools to undermine the democratisation process, particularly as the country's economic crisis continues.

Combating

In fact, combating sectarianism and factionalism is cited by Jordanian officials as the main reason for the King's recent decision to seek the creation of a national charter to regulate the political life.

"The charter will provide a binding philosophy that will unite all the forces in the country," says a Jordanian official. "We need a formula which will prevent contradictions and differences from tearing the country apart."

This officially declared objective partly explains the inclusion of representatives off all trends in the royal commission appointed by Hussein last month to draw up the charter.

"For example, if the charter stressed respect for secularism, this will prevent the Brotherhood... from pressing for the application of Islamic sharia (law). And if it stipulated commitment to a market economy, the leftists would not be able to press for central planning," says Mrs Sharaa, an appointed member of the commission.

But as the 60-member commission started its deliberations last week, some politicians still question the feasibility of the charter as a "safety valve" for both regime and country.

"There is fear that formulating a binding philosophy, which will involve political as well as economic methodology, could obstruct the very process of development and promoting democracy," says Mazen Saket, a left-wing politician. "After all, this might not be different in results from the experience of the communist parties in Eastern Europe or from creating a rigid religious fundamentalist regime."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1494 — Spain and Portugal by treaty of Tordesillas, agree to divide the New World between themselves.

1546 — Peace of Andres ends England's war with France and Scotland.

1557 — England declares war on France as an ally of Spain and Scots invade England.

1672 — Dutch defeat combined British and French fleet in Southwold Bay, England.

1862 — Britain and United States sign treaty for suppression of slave trade.

1866 — Prussian troops march into Holstein.

1905 — Norwegian Storting decides on separation from Sweden.

1921 — First Parliament of Northern Ireland opens.

1940 — Organised resistance against German invaders ends in Norway in World War II.

1942 — Battle of Midway in Pacific ends in major US victory over Japanese in World War II.

1967 — Israeli forces driving into Egypt reach banks of Suez Canal.

1970 — Voters in Switzerland reject proposal to force almost one-third of a million aliens to leave that country.

1975 — United States withdraws its last combat aircraft based on Nationalist Chinese island of Taiwan.

1987 — Senior Communist Party and government officials in Czechoslovakia are implicated in major corruption trial.

1988 — First contingent of Indian troops sent to Sri Lanka 10 months previously to enforce peace accord is withdrawn.

1989 — Foreign embassies rush to get their nationals out of Beijing, with much of China appearing on verge of chaos.

Hotspots scattered over Asia

Co-operation could ease people's plight

NEW DELHI/AFGHANISTAN, (CSM): Afghanistan has been locked in a stalemate since the withdrawal of more than 100,000 Soviet troops over a year ago.

In 1979, the Soviet Army invaded Afghanistan to quell a Muslim uprising and bolster the communist regime that took power in a coup the year before. Afghan rebels, based in neighbouring Pakistan and Iran and supported by the United States and other countries, have failed to take any of the country's cities where the regime of President Najibullah is entrenched.

A floundering Afghan interim government, based in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar, has been torn by factional infighting. Longstanding Afghan rivalries have exploded in open warfare among rival rebel groups.

The deadlock between the Soviet Union and the US over discontinuing arms to the two sides seems to be loosening. The Afghan rebels refuse to negotiate with Najib (as the Afghan president is known).

Easing

Washington is also easing its hardline against the Kabul regime and discussing future elections in which Najib would be allowed to participate. Moscow would be bound by the outcome.

The end of superpower military aid and involvement is likely to be followed by a splintered civil war in which Afghanistan's traditional tribal chieftains and warlords vie for power, analysts say. That could create new roadblocks to the return of more than 5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran.

India

Ayodhya: A disputed religious site in Uttar Pradesh state has ignited new tensions between India's majority Hindus and its large Muslim minority.

Hindus revere Ayodhya as the birthplace of the god-king Ram, while Muslims trace the 16th century shrine to Babur, India's first Moghul ruler.

Last fall, hundreds of people were killed in rioting across north India over the religious dispute. Mishandling of the issue by the central government contributed to the downfall of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi in November elections.

Hindu fundamentalists, who laid the foundation stone for a new temple at Ayodhya last year, threaten to begin construction on the shrine. They are backed by the right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party, a key supporter of the minority government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh.

Kashmir: The disputed valley of Kashmir has been torn by a Muslim revolt, fueling new tensions between India and Pakistan.

Kashmir, over which the two countries have fought two of their three wars since independence from Britain in 1947, is split between the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistani-administered Kashmir. The international border is in dispute.

More than 300 people have died in Indian Kashmir this year. In recent months, tensions have escalated with shrill warnings from both countries and border standoffs between Pakistani demonstrators and the Indian Army.

Interfering

New Delhi charges Islamabad with interfering in India's internal affairs and aiding the militants. Pakistan denies the charge, but calls a plebiscite, which is resisted by India.

Kashmir has become a highly charged issue on both sides of the border. Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is under pressure from political opponents trying to topple her beleaguered government. Indian Prime Minister Singh is being urged by right-wing Hindus to take a tougher stance against Pakistan.

Punjab: Punjab is caught in a spiral of violence by Sikh separatists battling for an independent state called Khalistan or "land of the pure."

Since 1983, more than 10,000 people have died in the state.

In 1984, the turmoil led to the Indian Army attack on the Golden Temple, Sikhdom's holiest shrine located in Amritsar, to flush out extremists barricaded there.

Later that year, prime minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards to avenge the assault. Gandhi's murder triggered a vicious backlash against Sikhs, one of India's most prosperous communities which nursed deep grievances against the government of former prime minister Rajiv.

A new peace initiative by Singh, who came to power after Indian general elections last fall, has



stalled in continuing violence. In the national poll, extremists groups gained the political upper hand in the state over political moderates but remain split by rivalries and infighting.

Nepal

Nepal's first independent government in 30 years came to power last month after weeks of pro-democracy protests and violence.

In January, a coalition, including left-wing groups and the moderate Nepali Congress began a campaign to end the near-absolute rule of King Birendra.

Scores of people died in street fighting between demonstrators and security forces. The conflict culminated in an April 6 massacre when thousands of demonstrators tried to march on the palace in Kathmandu.

Soon after, the king ended the 29-year-old ban on political parties and then allowed an interim coalition government to come to power until elections can be held. However, the new political order has stirred tensions between the ruling coalition and politicians and police loyal to the king and the old panchayat or council system of government.

Intimidate

To intimidate the new government, a banned right-wing vigilante group called the Mandales launched a spree of robberies, arson, and violence in Kathmandu. That triggered street battles and rioting in which anti-monarchist mobs beat and killed six policemen.

Mob leaders and politicians accused the king of failing to stem the violence and the police and army of trying to undermine the new government.

Pakistan

Sind: Long-standing ethnic strife in Sind has led to a political confrontation between the government of Benazir and the Mohajir National Movement (MQM), a party of refugees with growing clout.

The Mohajirs, who fled from India to Pakistan when the subcontinent was partitioned in 1947, say they face discrimination in government jobs and education.

The prime minister, who a year ago was in alliance with the MQM in Sind and nationally, claims the party and its anti-Bhutto allies are trying to topple the central government.

In early February, urban warfare between gangs sponsored by the two parties broke out in Karachi, Pakistan's industrial and financial centre.

The Pakistan Army, which has long suspected Indian infiltration in Sind's troubles, intervened and became the arbiter of law and order in the province. That has raised concern of growing political involvement by the army, which has ruled Pakistan for more than half of its 42-year history.

Sri Lanka

The March pullout of Indian troops from Sri Lanka ended months of confrontation between the two countries.

The Indian Army arrived on the tiny island nation in the summer of 1987 to police a peace accord aimed at ending ethnic strife between Sri Lanka's Sinhalese majority and its minority Tamils.

But the plan floundered when the Tamil Tigers, the main militant group demanding a separate Tamil homeland in the north and eastern province, refused to surrender its arms under the accord and then bogged down the Indian Army in a costly guerrilla war.

The Indian presence also triggered an uprising by Sinhalese extremists, the left-wing People's Liberation Front, against the Sri Lankan government in Colombo.

About 17,000 have died in Sri Lanka's ethnic strife, including 11,000 in the Tamil insurgency and about 6,000 in Sinhalese violence.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa has achieved a truce with the Tamil Tiger militants by allowing them to take control of the island's northeastern province after the Indian withdrawal.

The leader seems ready to tolerate de facto partition into the Tamil-dominated northeast and the Sinhalese-dominated south as long as the Tigers don't call for an independent Tamil homeland.

Letters to the editor

Mother Earth

Sir: Stories have been written by poets. Songs are sung in solos and duets. Save-Mother-Earth is the topic of today. Which is being destroyed by man each day!

And then I am further:

"Our planet named 'Earth' is a very beautiful place to live! Yet only a few of us do so, for we fail to appreciate it, it's maker, yours and mine!"

Albert Jossy Rego, Aaqool.

Airplane fares

Sir: In the recent summer holidays rush, passengers going out of Kuwait will be more than double comparing to the normal time. Nowadays many foreigners are cancelling their tour programme to India because there is no convenient flight seats available with a reasonable price.

Forget about the tourists and their problems. Take the case of Indians working here. There is no need of any explanation why we all are here in this 30°C "paradise". And for a majority of workers a few dinars savings is the cost of their evaporated blood. All of their sacrifices are for the loved ones whom they have left behind in India.

The one month leave which they get after a hard life of one year or two years is made very difficult to enjoy because of the unaffordable air fare. We know our national carrier or any other airline will not consider any of the above humanitarian aspects. So let us talk business.

By increasing the recent 5 per cent ticket fare, the whole year Air-India will definitely lose at least 25 per cent of their passengers and from now onwards we will try to make it more.

When the number of passengers are more than double during three months, instead of increasing the number of flights in the same proportion, they decided to increase the ticket fare so that those who can't afford to buy the ticket will cancel their trips.

If AI fix their Trivandrum sector price to KD 200 and increase the numbers of flights operating, then their profits will be more and our burden will be less.

Depending on AI number of landing in Kuwait, the same number of landing rights should be granted to Kuwait Airways in India. Definitely our aviation minister can do something in this regard. We can never depend on the promises of politicians as they aren't reliable. Previous offer to operate one ship service (ferry service) between Kuwait/Cochin and Kuwait/Bombay would have been very good relief for the low income group. I can't understand why our ambassador is keeping quiet in this matter. Please we request our ambassador to do something urgently to help those poor Indians here. The local organisations or political groups can't achieve anything by their protest.

And the final request is that until Air-India reduce the charge to India especially to Trivandrum to less than the other airlines please do not travel by Air-India. Please take the cheapest ticket available in the market. We are the customers — without our co-operation they can't survive. This is the only one way we can protest against this looting.

It is a pity that such a wealthy nation like Kuwait also joins this gang of looters. Please Kuwait Airways do something in favour of those Indians who are working here for the prosperity of Kuwait. Kuwait Airways should offer a reasonable priced ticket to India. Say KD 120 to Bombay and Delhi will be fine.

P.J.V., Safat.

Taking a cue

SIR: A couple of weeks ago an article appeared in your paper, growing size of school bag — it is to be hoped that the teachers of the New Indian School read and absorbed the contents. If ever there was an inconsiderate act — it is the staff of the lower and middle school here. Often a child from these sections is expected to take all his books (including 3-4 books each in Hindi and English) as the teachers can't make up their minds about what to teach and when.

Unnecessary text books — one for each subject are also carried along, as the child is punished, if the required book is not produced, regardless of whether it is scheduled on the timetable or not. Surely there are school cupboards to keep the little used books! Maybe the principal can weigh and find out the weight of each bag and the unnecessary books therein.

The high school students do not seem to suffer this problem or any other — they carry little or nothing to school and some don't wear a school article of the prescribed school uniform. Surely a rule for one is a rule for all in the matter of uniform.

Some high school students also behave like savages, grabbing away the snacks from little ones — (mainly the helpless L and U. K.G) and eating them during break. It is to be hoped that the principal will look into the above matters and try to rectify them.

M. Mathai, Kuwait.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Nato Alliance trying to redefine role

BRUSSELS, (Reuter): Nato can take little satisfaction from the Washington superpower summit as it struggles to put together the blueprint for Europe's future security and convince its public that it still has a role.

Diplomats and analysts said Nato had looked to the summit for badly-needed fresh impetus on two questions — the status of united Germany and progress towards a treaty to cut conventional forces.

"In the event, there wasn't any real progress on those issues. It was not good news," said Wolfgang Heisenberg of the Brussels-based Centre for European Policy Studies.

"There is a general recognition that the whole process of reshaping Europe and working out what happens to Germany is going to take longer than we thought," said one Nato diplomat. "There is definitely a more sober mood around here."

Prove

The 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, eager to prove its value as a political organisation now that four decades of cold war are over, has set itself a stiff programme over the next few months.

A major issue is its insistence that a united Germany must be a member of the Western alliance, despite stubborn opposition from Moscow.

At the summit, the United States offered Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev a nine-point plan to try and ease Soviet concerns.

Nato diplomats concerned that it did little more than repackage previous assurances, such as allowing Soviet troops to stay in what is now East Germany for a transitional period of several years and pledging not to station Nato forces there.

It was not enough to sway Gorbachev, whose people harbour bitter memories of the war against Nazi Germany which cost more than 20 million Soviet lives. He is also apparently under pressure from the military not to give any more away, now that the Warsaw Pact is collapsing.

Interest

"We hope the Soviets will see that a united Germany in Nato is in their best interest," too. But Gorbachev has his doubts for manoeuvre just now and the summit was called off, said a Nato diplomat.

Gorbachev has told President George Bush reaffirmed the goal of completing a Vienna treaty this year to reduce sharply the number of conventional forces in Europe (CFE).

The Western allies have accused Moscow of dragging its feet in the negotiations and have discussed how to speed up the talks to make sure a treaty is signed this year.

The West badly wants a treaty to allow the countries of Nato and the Warsaw Pact to cash in some of the "peace dividend" of the end of the cold war.

Failure to achieve a CFE agreement this year could reflect badly on the alliance, which has said it will take a leading role in the reshaping of Europe.

Nato has made a CFE treaty this year a precondition for holding a summit of the 35-nation Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) to discuss the continent's future.

Francois Heisbourg of London's International Institute for Strategic Studies said that although the Washington summit brought only a public reaffirmation of the aim to get a treaty by year-end, this was not a major disappointment for Nato.

Goal

"They did manage to reaffirm the goal... at least we're not worse off than we were before the summit," he said.

Moscow has pressed hard to transform the CSCE process, which now lays down guidelines on security, human rights and economic affairs, into an institution with permanent staff and regular ministerial meetings.

Western support for this idea is growing fast, with the implication that CSCE might eventually replace the Warsaw Pact and Nato.

Nato has rejected the suggestion that it is becoming obsolete and is feverishly working on a package of proposals for the CSCE summit which would leave it with a major role to play.

Nato foreign ministers meeting in Scotland later this week will discuss the package and lay the groundwork for a summit of Nato leaders in London next month.

"Getting Germany into Nato and a conventional forces treaty in the bag would really show people that we have still got something they need," said one Nato diplomat.

"The summit didn't bring us much joy on either point. But we'll manage it, don't write us off yet."

QUOTE ME

"The results didn't interest me. It is the progress in play that comforts me. Gullit, for example, is only in the second phase of his recovery. He still lacks that winning goal, a goal. It is a question of time." — Dutch coach on his team's performance against Yugoslavia.

"I hope to go farther, I think I'm playing very concentrated and I'm very happy." — Yugoslav teenager Goran Ivanisevic, fifth upset second seed Boris Becker in the French Open first round.

"For two years" the Netherlands has not played like the European champion must play. It surrendered the initiative to the opponents, it took care to defend itself rather than attack. Finally we have rediscovered the right balance. Personally, I need only a goal. I will prepare myself to find it." — Dutch captain Ruud Gullit.

"We have rediscovered our leader. We no longer feel like orphans." — Dutch defender Frank Rijkaard to the Italian sports daily Corriere dello Sport on the return of Ruud Gullit.

"Ruud needed such a game to convince himself he was back. If in the Benfica match he was at 60 to 70 per cent of condition, at the World Cup he will be 100 per cent." — Marco van Basten.

"I now feel as if a little weight is off me. Throughout the whole year when you have won a Grand Slam tournament so young, you feel you have a bag of pressure. People are gunning for you." — Defending champion Michael Chang after losing to Andre Agassi in the French Open.

فكرنا اننا لنفعل

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Saudis deny excess output report

Opec oil prices are back to early 1970s

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): When the year began, not even the most pessimistic oil market expert dared predict the dramatic fall in prices that is now taking place.

In recent weeks, the value of a barrel of oil has tumbled by about a third to a level, after allowing for inflation, which compares with prices of earlier, runous years.

"Oil prices are back in real terms virtually to 1973 levels," says Mehdi Varzi, an analyst who follows Opec for London-based Kleinwort Benson Securities.

In that year, during an Arab oil embargo against the West, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries seized control of prices from the 'seven sis-

ters' — the Western oil companies which it accused of conspiring to keep the barrel cheap.

The inability of the 13 Opec members to abide by their agreed output quotas is, as with the record glut of the 1980s, being blamed for the current crisis in the market.

Yet demand for Opec's oil has been growing. Stimulated by weak prices in the mid-1980s, it is up around 22 million barrels daily, compared with only 16 million five years ago.

Even so, the temptation to break quotas proved too strong, especially after winter weather in North America last December suddenly added a million barrels a day to US fuel demand.

The Opec was ambushed when

a thaw set in and there was a check to the global economic expansion on which the underlying recovery of petroleum demand is based.

It called emergency talks in Geneva on May 3 to fix a programme of output cuts.

And Western oil company officials say the Saudis may lose patience and rescind their own cut if nothing is done soon.

So prices are sliding again.

Geoffrey Pyne, an energy economist with London-based finance house UBS-Phillips and Drew, thinks that nominal prices, now around \$14 per barrel, need not crash this time to below \$10 as they did in 1986.

The Kuwaitis, unlike most Opec members, have their own



Hisham Nazer

big world-wide refinery network. And, like the Western oil companies, they make handsome profits running cheap crude through the system — motorists

have probably noticed that pump prices rarely drop as fast as those for crude oil.

Many analysts, however, think that, with an eye on the long term, the Gulf Arab countries actually favoured weaker prices as a tactic to help keep the US economy out of recession and give further stimulus to the underlying rebound in oil demand.

Weak prices, he says, may drive demand up so fast as to risk a new pricing "shock."

Opec could be close to producing at full capacity by the mid-1990s. Imports are rising fast in the United States, up by 14 per cent this year and accounting for about half the oil which the nation consumes.

Opec is the chief source of imported US oil.

Saudi Arabia reaffirmed today it was abiding by its Opec quota and said there was no truth in reports it was linked to the changing oil market situation.

Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham Nazer, in a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA), said:

"Saudi Arabia promised Opec on May 1 to abide by its quota. The whole world admitted it (Saudi Arabia) was keeping its promise and it still adheres to it."

He added: "Saudi Arabia has not changed its position, and accordingly linking its commitment to the changing (oil) market is baseless."

SPA, monitored in Nicosia, said the minister described as "completely baseless the assumptions" of oil market analysts quoted by Reuters earlier yesterday.

A Reuters report from Singapore quoted oil analysts as saying Saudi Arabia had abandoned its single-handed attempt to support sagging oil prices and now seemed intent on forcing prices lower to shock other big producers into pulling their weight.

Reports the kingdom had cut its oil price formula for Far East buyers knocked about 45 cents off spot prices in Asia.

"It's probably intended to be a short-term shock to the market," a US investment house trader had told Reuters.

Production will reach 25m bpd

Al Oteiba sees no Opec quotas in '91

ABU DHABI, June 6, (Reuters): United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba, in his latest 1,600-page book published recently, said Opec will not need restrictive output quotas as of next year.

"By the year 1991, as an important and crucial year that will satisfy the minimum level of Opec states' ambitions for (Opec) production will reach 25 million barrels per day (bpd)," Oteiba said in his latest book called "Oil and the UAE economy."

The UAE's oil minister since 1974, he is now the longest serving oil chief within the 13-member group.

Oteiba, 44, a researcher and a poet, had lived through Opec's recent history from the time the group nationalised oil.

market in early 1980s to the oil price collapse in 1986.

"At this point (1991) there will be no need for Opec to set an output ceiling and allocate quotas, especially as most members have reached their maximum production within the current ceiling of around 22 million bpd."

Oteiba assigns output quotas to its members to keep oil market prices at check, although most of the time the limits are flouted.

UAE had rejected its 1.095 million bpd limit at Opec's 1989 November meeting in Vienna, opting instead to produce around two million.

At that meeting the UAE was "verbally" asked to produce at two million bpd, Oteiba says in his book.

Oteiba has assigned a random

quota for the UAE and this is a unique phenomenon and unprecedented in Opec history," Oteiba said in his book.

"This is a firm fact and will remain so until Opec agrees on a fair quota that matches the UAE's oil and economic potentials."

Although there are no plans at present to take full control of the oil industry in the UAE, the country in future may take steps to nationalise the foreign companies operating in the country Oteiba said.

"Concerning the future of its relationship with the foreign oil companies, the UAE at present sees that it should keep them as partners in the oil industry," the oil minister said.

"But in the near future, it

might find that it should take a crucial decision in this respect. It could have no choice but to follow the example of other oil exporting countries which have opted for full control of their oil industry."

A number of foreign oil companies from the United States, Europe and Japan are operating as equity holders in the UAE, most of the time holding minority shares in the producing firms.

Oteiba put the UAE's crude oil reserves at 233.7 billion barrels.

The Emirate of Abu Dhabi — where Oteiba comes from — is the biggest producer in the federation and owns 109.8 billion barrels of the recoverable reserves, the minister said.



Workers march in central Athens yesterday to protest economic austerity measures. Banner reads: We secure our rights through struggle. More than one million workers joined a 24-hour strike to protest against the conservative government's measures. (Reuters wirephoto)

Protest against austerity plan

Greece crippled by strike

ATHENS, June 6, (Reuters): More than a million Greek workers joined a 24-hour strike today to protest against the new conservative government's austerity programme.

Tourist ships to islands, trains, and international and domestic flights were delayed or cancelled. Services were cut sharply at hospitals, banks, schools, public utilities and cargo ports, officials said.

With public transport severely limited, private cars poured into Athens, aggravating already high levels of pollution. Work on restoring the Parthenon temple and other marble monuments on the hilltop Acropolis overlooking Athens stopped for the day.

It was the third one-day general strike since conservative Prime Mini-

ster Constantine Mitsotakis came to power in April and imposed a tough economic austerity programme.

While Mitsotakis was in the United States, basking in the limelight of the first visit by a Greek prime minister in 26 years, unions at home vowed to wage a long summer of challenges to his government's economic policies.

"This strike, and our scheduled industrial action programme, has one aim: To overturn the government's economic measures," Lampros Kanellopoulos, president of the General Confederation of Greek Workers (GSEE), told reporters.

Officials at GSEE and the

Federation of Civil Servant Unions (Adey), who together called the strike and staged mass rallies around the country, said 80 per cent of their members — well over a million workers — joined the action.

Protests against the government's policies have spread to other areas. Petrol stations have been closed since Monday and 60,000 high school teachers are on strike and refusing to grade year-end exams to back a pay dispute.

GSEE, the largest labour grouping with nearly two million members, has spearheaded the challenge to Mitsotakis's policies and vowed to fight his programmes.

Risky securities

Prices of junk bonds dip

NEW YORK, June 6, (AP): Prices of junk bonds used to finance part of Donald Trump's casino and real estate empire fell again yesterday amid speculation that negotiations between the developer and his bankers would further reduce the value of the risky securities.

The price of 14 per cent bonds used to back Trump's new Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City was quoted at \$34 to \$35 per \$100 in face value late yesterday, down from \$36 to \$38 on Monday.

Junk bonds tied to other Trump holdings fared somewhat better. The Trump Plaza Casino's 12-7/8 per cent issues were quoted at \$81 to \$82 down from \$82 to \$83, and 13-3/4 per cent issues backing the Trump Castle Casino were little changed at \$39 to \$40.

Prices for the issues fell sharply Monday — with the Taj Mahal bonds sliding as much as \$10 — when Trump confirmed a Wall Street Journal report that he has been meeting with major lenders who have grown increasingly uneasy about his ability to handle his reported \$2 billion in bank debt.

The lenders, who include units of Bankers Trust Co., Citicorp, Chase Manhattan Corp. and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co., are said to be seeking a restructuring of the developer's holdings, including a possible sale of some Trump assets.

Separately, bondholders filed a class action lawsuit seeking to block Trump and his associates from promoting the Taj Mahal at the expense of the Trump Plaza and Trump Castle holdings in Atlantic City.

The US district court suit claimed Trump gave the Taj Mahal a confidential list of "high level gamblers and affluent clientele" of the Trump Plaza and Trump Castle without compensating the hotels for the information, in violation of bond agreements.

The suit claims Trump also violated Federal Securities

law by not disclosing the transaction and seeks a court order barring him from using any of the hotels' information or assets to benefit the Taj.

It also seeks unspecified damages for the sharp decline in value of the bonds. Trump Plaza bonds have declined from 102 per cent of face value to 82 per cent since August 1989, while Trump Castle bonds dropped from 103 per cent to 70 per cent, the suit claimed.

Trump's talks with the banks have been under way for about two weeks. Dan Klores, a spokesman for Trump, refused to say whether the two sides were meeting or to give any information beyond Trump's brief statement on Monday.

"At this point, these are things that are between the Trump organisation and other people and we're not at liberty to talk about that," Klores said.

Investors have been unsettled by reports that the banks were trying to prevent Trump from making upcoming payments to junk bondholders. Such a move would devastate the value of the securities, which are attractive to investors because they pay a much higher interest rate than other bonds.

Trump's lenders are believed to be concerned that his holdings, including the three Atlantic City casinos, are not producing enough cash to meet interest payments.

The developer has maintained in recent months he has no cash flow problems. He did announce in late April that he was considering putting some of his assets on the block — including the Northeast Air Shuttle he bought from Eastern Airlines for \$365 million last year — but claimed he wanted to raise cash to buy new properties.

Trump's other assets include the Plaza Hotel, Plaza Tower skyscraper and several apartment buildings in Manhattan; the casinos; and the Trump Shuttle airline.

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Dollar down, gold mixed

LONDON, June 6, (UPI): The dollar closed down against all the major European currencies today after a quiet and dull day on the foreign exchange markets, dealers said. Gold was mixed.

Political uncertainties in Germany and the Soviet Union served as a prop for the dollar while hopes for an early cut in US interest rates to stimulate the economy appeared to be fading, said analysts.

The US unit had traded in small ranges throughout the day in the absence of any economic statistics to give dealers guidance on where the dollar was heading, foreign exchange analysts said.

"The markets are just waiting for trade and other important figures due late next week," said Nigel Rendell, international economist with James Capel Co.

He suggested that US interest rates could stay at present levels rather than the rumoured fall because US inflationary pressures were too high.

In Frankfurt the dollar closed lower at 1.6885 Deutsche mark against 1.6930 at close yesterday, and also was lower in Zurich at 1.4270 Swiss francs from 1.4365.

In London, the pound closed marginally higher \$1.6870 compared to \$1.6840 yesterday. Some dealers said trading in London had been low due to players' interest in the Derby, the most important flat race in the British horse racing calendar.

The US unit closed lower in Paris, Brussels and Milan, at 5.6835 francs against 5.7230, at 34.73 Belgian francs against 34.91, and 1.240 lire against 1.247.40 at the previous day's close.

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The initial period of contract is for two years, further renewable with mutual agreement.

Benefits
The position is in the Management cadre of the company and carries very attractive salary. The benefits include married status, company provided car and housing, annual vacation of four weeks with air fares paid to applicant, wife and up to three children, medical expenses, staff savings fund and life assurance protection.

2. Sales Officer

The applicant will be required to service major commercial accounts and have the ability to produce new business. He should have a minimum qualification of AFII/ACII and be a graduate. Preferred age 30-35 years. There are excellent career prospects for suitable candidate.

Benefits
A minimum starting salary of SR60,000 per annum. Higher start could be considered for deserving candidates. Other benefits as above.

Interested candidates fulfilling the job requirements may send their applications with full bio-data, photocopies of work experience certificates, passport details along with a passport size recent photograph within 10 days to:

P.O. Box 6393

RIYADH 11442

SAUDI ARABIA

Applicants in respect of item No. 1 above should telefax copy of their application with bio-data to telefax No. (00-966-1) 464-5457.

Saudi trade team for US

RIYADH, June 6, (Agencies): A top level Saudi business delegation will visit the United States for ten days starting on June 10 to explore areas of potential co-operation in various fields, it was disclosed here yesterday.

Daily Arab News said the mission is being organised by the US foreign commercial service in co-operation with Saudi authorities and will seek to familiarise members of the delegation with the latest developments in operations and maintenance, airport safety, security and group support systems in addition to other fields.

According to the newspaper, members of the delegation will represent thirty Saudi Hi-Tech companies and will visit four American industrial cities namely Philadelphia, Denver, Phoenix and Los Angeles.

A US official in Jeddah told the paper the delegation is also interested in exploring areas of co-operation in the fields of oil-field and petrochemical equipment, computer hardware and software, health care technology and data communications.

In another development Italy's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Mario E. Maiolini today said Italy is studying prospects of starting several joint ventures in Saudi Arabia in fields of petroleum, petrochemical industries and telecommunications system.

In an interview with Riyadh Daily on the occasion of Italy's National Day, he said Saudi Arabia is witnessing rapid industrialisation, adding that Italy is naturally keen on participating in this process with Saudi firms.

"There are at present several proposals under consideration by the industrial firms of the two countries, which will hopefully culminate in setting up more joint ventures and high-tech projects," Maiolini said.

Many trade delegations and businessmen from the two countries have exchanged visits. In November 1984 and March 1990, the kingdom received delegations of Confindustria, the Italian general organisation, comprising almost 115,000 industrial companies.

During a visit in March this year, an agreement to develop industrial investment was signed between the Saudi Council of Chambers of Commerce and Confindustria. Apart from these, Italian managers and industrialists frequently arrive in the kingdom for business purposes, the envoy said.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

TOKYO, June 6, (Reuters): Stocks had firmed slightly by the close but an absence of factors drove most investors to the sidelines. The Nikkei rose 31.88 to 32,953.50.

SYDNEY: Stocks closed slightly lower in trading dominated by banking stocks about to go ex-dividend. The All Ordinaries fell 9.1 to 1,356.9.

HONG KONG: Stocks, down nearly 20 points shortly before mid-day, shot up in late trade to end at their highest level since tanks smashed a pro-democracy movement in Beijing last year. The Hang Seng index rose 13.43 to 3,172.49.

SINGAPORE: Stocks closed generally lower in sluggish trading, with few foreign fund managers seen on the market.

BOMBAY: Share prices closed mixed in active trading in alternate bouts of selling and buying. The Bombay Stock Exchange index eased 0.93 to 794.18.

FRANKFURT: Despite positive domestic economic data, shares tumbled 1.5 per cent in thin trading as doubts resurfaced about the cost of German monetary union. The Dax index fell 27.67 to end at 1,849.02.

ZURICH: Shares closed lower in light volume as prices consolidated at slightly lower levels after recent gains. The SPI index fell 12.7 to 1,182.4.

PARIS: Prices were generally lower at mid-day after an early rally. Anxiety about a parliamentary report on capital gains tax overhung the market.

LONDON: Shares were steady near the day's lows in quiet afternoon business as dealers took a break to watch the Derby horse race. At 1431 GMT the FTSE index was down 2.1 at 2,359.0.

NEW YORK: Stocks showed small losses in a late morning trading. Statements from economists and from Federal Reserve officials that the Fed would not ease interest rates soon encouraged profit-taking. The Dow was down four at 2,921.

Banks report record profits

Saudis postpone electronic share dealing

BAHRAIN, June 6, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has delayed the introduction of the first electronic share dealing system in the Gulf to avoid a traditional summer trade lull.

Gulf-based analysts say the launch of the Saudi Securities Automated Information System (Sais) — initially scheduled for April — had been postponed to avoid coinciding with the Muslim holy month of Ramadan which ended in May.

Then Saudi officials decided to put off the date for another three months to avoid a normal business lull between June and August, when many people take extended holidays.

"The hardware is in place and the

system has been fine-tuned but officials want to start when activity picks up at the end of the summer season," one Saudi-based economist said.

Analysts say screen trading on Sais will revolutionise the kingdom's infant market by speeding up share dealing for 55 listed companies and providing accurate prices.

Under present rules, traders must go to a bank with a bid or offer and the banker involved then telephones around for a quote. Deals can take up to two months to complete.

Sais would sidestep the religiously sensitive issue of re-introducing a trading floor while giving small investors the chance to compete with prominent

ones, who previously had better access to company information, the analysts said.

It would also reduce the influence of brokers who take most of the business directly from big investors. Brokers from the kingdom's 12 commercial banks will operate the screens.

"Trading floors are anachronisms today — you don't need to have people standing eyeball to eyeball when the same information can be communicated electronically," one analyst said.

Saudi Arabia opened a trading hall in May 1987 but closed it a few weeks later after what bankers termed objections from some merchants and religious groups. Usury is banned by Islam.

Despite this, trading volume on the cumbersome telephone and telex market has grown steadily, reaching an average \$7 million a day from four million a year ago.

This compares with daily trade of around \$10.3 million on Kuwait's exchange, which is the oldest in the Gulf. Business on Bahrain's official exchange is less than \$1 million a day.

Dramatic gains in stock prices of many banks and industrial firms fuelled a share trading boom in 1989, with the kingdom's official index breaking 100 for the first time last October.

It climbed about nine per cent during

the first five months of 1990, hitting 118.27 on May 30.

Figures show the banking and industry sectors — which recorded gains of 19 per cent and 10 per cent respectively this year — still account for most of the turnover.

Higher oil prices and declining loan loss provisions boosted the performance of most Saudi banks in 1989. Several reported record profits, both for 1989 and the first quarter of 1990.

"The banks are performing well and this is whetting the appetite for their shares," a spokesman for the Riyadh-based Consulting Centre for Finance and Investment said.

Share prices for the joint-venture

United Saudi Commercial Bank, a market leader, rose 48 per cent in the past five months.

The bank's first quarter profit jumped to 27 million riyals (\$7.2 million) from 17 million (\$4.5 million) in the first quarter of 1989.

Share prices for Riyadh Bank, one of the largest Saudi banks, leaped 30 per cent. The bank's first quarter profit rose 25 per cent to 115.7 million riyals (\$31 million).

New restrictions and taxes placed on some manufactured imports coupled with a general economic upturn also improved the performance of local industries.

International conference of businessmen

Asian economies matching West soon

SINGAPORE, June 6, (Reuters): The rapidly growing economies of Asia will reach the level of prosperity of Western Europe in ten years and that of the United States shortly thereafter, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said today.

"Growth in Asia over the last 20 years has been led by Japan and the Asian newly industrialising nations. Their ambition and drive will carry them at high rates of growth into the next century," he told an international conference of businessmen.

Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan, known as the "four little dragons", have become industrialised in the past

two decades. High rates of economic growth have also been attained in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, which have deregulated and liberalised their economies, Lee said.

"And I believe within this decade Burma, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos will do likewise, because they all know these are tried, effective and successful methods," he said.

Propelled by high growth rates, on average twice that of Western nations, the Asian economies will match those of Western industrialised nations by the turn of the century, Lee said.

"Together Japan, the Asian NINs and ASEAN will have caught up with Western Europe in terms of total GNP (Gross National Product) by the year 2000 and with the United States by early in the next decade," he said.

ASEAN, the Association of South East Asian Nations, is made up of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Singapore and the Philippines.

Lee said Asian nations enjoyed cohesive social values and manpower resources that allowed individuals to sacrifice for the well-being of the group. In contrast, Western ideals of

rights and liberties of the individual promote innovation and creativity, he said.

"But some Americans are wondering whether a system so dependent on gifted individuals like Seymour Cray or Steve Jobs can compete against the systematic, organised group efforts of Japanese companies like NEC or Sony," Lee said.

Cray, a computer designer, is considered the father of the supercomputer. Jobs founded Apple Computer.

Lee said increased access to most technology and commodities had diminished the role of ownership of such resources in economic progress.

Arab Banking Corporation offers shares

KUWAIT, June 6, (Kuna): The Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) here yesterday invited Gulf and non-Gulf investors to subscribe in newly offered shares with a total value of \$250 million which will increase the firm's capital to \$1 billion.

The Bahrain-based ABC is the first Gulf bank to allow non-Gulf Arab citizens own shares listed for trading in the Kuwait Stock Exchange, Bahrain and Paris.

ABC's executive director Abdulla A. Al-Saudi explained to reporters here the minutes of the new subscriptions, saying that the idea behind it was to expand the operations of ABC to offer competitive services on the Arab and foreign levels.

ABC, which is equally owned by the governments of Kuwait, Libya and the United Arab Emirates, has a network of seven major branches in Bahrain, New York, London, Paris, Singapore, Grand Cayman Islands and Milano.

ABC also owns a network of several smaller banks operating in Jordan, Bahrain, Tripoli and Tunisia. According to Al-Saudi, ABC is currently studying plans to establish a new bank in Europe in light of fundamental changes in that area.

Al-Saudi said ABC has chosen three firms, in London, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, to manage the new subscription, noting that about \$200 million of the subscription will be covered in the Arab world.

Al-Saudi Bank in Kuwait will receive local investors for the new offering of ABC, the official stated.

IMF may be opening door to Moscow

WASHINGTON, June 6, (Reuters): While there were no official contacts between Soviet officials and the International Monetary Fund during last week's visit to Washington by Mikhail Gorbachev, the door may be opening to allow Moscow to seek membership in the lending agency.

Washington still objects to Soviet membership but the recent decision to establish a European Development Bank, with both the United States and Soviet Union as founding members, could indicate a softening of that position.

"With the founding of the new bank, a door has been opened that could see Moscow moving into the main stream of economic activity, including joining the International Monetary Fund (IMF)," said one monetary source.

He added: "There were no contacts during the Gorbachev visit. It would probably be too visible a trip for this kind of discussion to take place."

In the past, Moscow has considered the IMF, which monitors the international monetary system and helps

countries with balance-of-payment problems, to be a capitalist creation that good socialists should avoid.

But several countries in Eastern Europe as well as the Soviet Union's socialist rival, China, are members, and others are lining up to join.

The United States, the largest members of the IMF and its sister agency, the World Bank, has made it clear that it would oppose membership at this time.

But this could easily be changed as relations between the United States and the Soviet Union improve in an era of glasnost and perestroika. Washington, for instance, has accepted Soviet attendance at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Ironically when the IMF and World Bank were formed at the end of World War II, the United States had pressed its wartime ally to join the fund and the bank but Joseph Stalin vetoed the idea.

Some analysts are disappointed that the summit economic agenda did not appear to include any discussions on smoothing the way for Soviet membership in the IMF and bank.

KD market remains quiet

KUWAIT, June 6, (Reuters): The Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market was liquid today, but was generally quiet otherwise, said dealers.

The market continued to focus on short dates. They said, and overnight eased slightly, being offered at 7-1/2 pct towards the end of trading. Tomorrow/next was quoted at 8-3/8 7-7/8, spot/next at 8-1/2 8-1/8, and one week at 8-5/8 8-1/4. Little activity was seen in fixed dates, and rates remained largely unchanged.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.29178/88 to the dollar, but later adjusted this to 0.29205/13.

GCC-EEC to meet on June 25

Free trade pact to be reviewed

NICOSIA, June 6, (Reuters): Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) officials will hold a new round of talks later this month with the European Economic Community (EEC) to press for a free trade pact with their main trading partner, a senior GCC official said.

The Saudi Press Agency SPA quoted GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs Abdullah Al-Qurayz as saying on Monday night that the meeting would be held on June 25 as proposed by the EEC.

He made no mention of the venue or at what level the negotiations would be conducted.

The decision to start the new round of negotiations came after a joint meeting between the GCC foreign and finance ministers on Sunday.

Al-Qurayz said the joint meeting discussed how to reach a free trade pact with the 12-member EEC.

He said that GCC foreign and finance ministers would hold another joint meeting on September 2 to discuss the outcome of the GCC-EEC negotiations.

GCC members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain want the EEC to lift painful protective tariffs on their key petrochemical and aluminium exports.

The Gulf Arab states hope these industries will help them reduce their reliance on crude oil exports. They argue that a trade deficit with the EEC which reached 4.4 billion in 1988 is unfair.

Major expansion and diversification planned

Uniplas entering market with fully convertible debenture issue

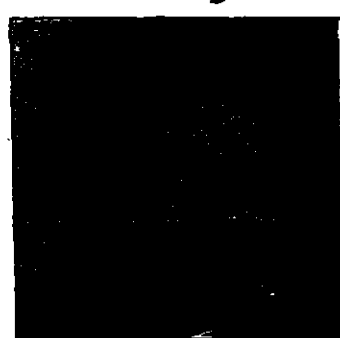
UNIPLAS India Limited, which has recorded remarkable progress of a 14 times increase in turnover from Rs1.8 crores to Rs26.2 crores in the three years ending June, 1989, is now poised for ongoing rapid growth estimated to touch Rs50.0 crores turnover this year ending June, 1990 and over Rs100.0 crores next year.

A major expansion and diversification project is now on the final stages of completion which will raise production capacity in its wide range of plastic products from 12,400 tpa to 38,400 tpa by September, 1990 (24,000 tpa capacity already operational).

The current expansion and diversification project entails a total outlay of Rs20.8 crores which is being financed through a 14 per cent fully convertible debentures rights-cum-public issue totalling to Rs10.8 crores and the balance by term financing from banks and financial institutions. The rights issue is already open whilst the public issue opens on June 16, 1990 for NRIs and the June 18, 1990 for the Indian public. The debentures will be fully convertible into equity shares in two parts: six and twelve months from the date of allotment.



J. B. S. Bakshi



Bakshi Kuldeep Singh
NRI Director

Apart from the major quantum jump in capacities, the project will enable Uniplas to achieve key strategic objectives to graduate from being a one raw material (PVC), one end product (PVC pipes), one technology (extrusion), limited north India market, to a multi-polymer (LLDPE, HDPE, ABS, etc.), multi-technology (injection and rotational moulding), multi products, national marketing and services company.

Apart from further expansion of the existing plants at Noida, the company expects to commission shortly a new manufacturing operation in Daman, 200 kms north of Bombay.

growth through upgradation of technologies, capacity and market development. "This is the Uniplas position and strategy," says Bakshi.

The company's products now include PVC pipes and fittings, sprinkler systems, tubewell filters and castings, indoor and outdoor water storage tanks and containers, silos, materials handling systems, automobile fuel tanks, chemical tanks, safety and water management products etc.

Uniplas product lines serve crucial and priority economic development areas of rural drinking water schemes, irrigation, water storage, telecommunications, construction, energy and wood conservation, automobile, power generation and a host of other industries. Conservatively these areas represent a total market potential expected to develop from its present Rs800-Rs1,000 crores size to Rs2,500 crores in the not too distant future.

Uniplas also plans to strengthen its design and engineering projects division which undertakes pipeline and other related contracts and also its present export activities which will make a sizeable and profitable contribution of over Rs6.0 crores to the turnover of the company this year.

The company's dividend record of 16 per cent, 20 per cent and 25 per cent in the last three years reflects its success which is quite unparalleled in the plastic industry. For the current year June, 1990, an EPS of Rs10/- is the management objective, which we hope to sustain in future years too through the rapid increase in turnover, says Bakshi.

Uniplas is heading rapidly towards becoming India's largest plastics processing company. New manufacturing plants are also being planned in the next three years in south and eastern India also which will result in further capacity increase to over 60,000 tpa for which government licensing and registrations have already been obtained.

J. B. S. Bakshi, who has promoted and developed the company, was privileged recently to be officially invited by Britain to visit industrial establishments in the UK, as a state guest. This has initiated several entirely new longer term possibilities for the company which are being very actively pursued.

Nikkei stock average: 32953.50 (+31.88)		Mat Electric 2210 -10	
Volume: 600 mil shs		Mitsubishi Corp. 1590 +20	
Yen exchange rate: 152.51		Mitsubishi Estate 1430 -30	
Name of stock		Mitsubishi H.I. 1100 +30	
Advanced Corp.	2050 -20	Mitsubishi R.E. 1960 +10	
Ajinomoto	2180 -40	Mitsubishi Corp. 1780 +20	
Alps Electric	1780 +10	Mitsubishi F.M. 3810 -10	
Anada	1910 -10	Mitsubishi S.C. 4800 +90	
Asahi Chem Ind.	960 +10	NEC Corp. 2030 -30	
Asahi Glass	1910 -10	Nippon Corp. 1620 -20	
C. Itoh Co.	910 -10	Nippon Steel Corp. 3810 -10	
Canon Inc.	1770 -10	Nippon Yusen Corp. 2300 +10	
Casto Corp.	1600 -20	Nissan Corp. 1580 -10	
Dai Nippon Printing	1970 -30	Nissan Sec. 2460 -20	
Daiichi Sankyo	2400 +20	Okiama Mach. 1680 +30	
Daimippon Ind.	2710 -40	Oriental K. Co. 2030 -10	
Daiichi Corp.	1780 -20	Orix Corp. 4610 +130	
Eiei	1890 -10	Pioneer Elec Co. 6160 -40	
Fujie Ltd.	7180 -60	Pioneer Lock Inc. 2100 +40	
Fuji Photo	4190 +60	Sanyo Elec Co. 990 +15	
Fujiura Ltd.	1450 +10	Secom Co., Ltd. 6340 -0	
Hitachi Credit	1620 +20	Shimizu Chem. 1660 +10	
Hitachi Koki	2400 +20	Shindengen Elec. 1340 +20	
Hitachi Ltd.	1580 -10	Sony Corp. 8560 +90	
Hitachi Metal	1530 -10	Sumitomo Elec Ind. 1380 -20	
Honda Motor	1790 +10	Sumitomo Metal Ind. 615 +5	
Ito Yokado Co.	4280 -10	Takeda Chemical 1770 -10	
Kajima Corp.	1960 -20	TDK Corp. 1610 -30	
Kanagaki H.I.	990 +10	Tokai Marine & Fire 1800 -30	
Kobe Steel Ind.	1900 +10	Tokyo Elec. Power 4540 -60	
Kumagai G.K.	1150 +10	Tokai Electric Ind. 1800 +10	
Kyocera Corp.	7900 -30	Toshiba Electric 1830 -20	
Matsui	3140 -10	Provident by Nomura Investment Banking (Midwest), Bahrain	
Matsushita Ind.	3690 +40		



Hamad Al-Sager, assistant general manager opening the seminar.

Bank provides better services

THE training centre of the Commercial Bank of Kuwait in association with the Institute of Banking Studies (IBS) conducted a two-day seminar on managing for customer satisfaction at the Hotel Meridien on May 12-13, 1990. The seminar which aimed at exposing the bank's managerial personnel to customer relationship responsibilities, was attended by regional managers, credit managers, commercial services managers and training staff.

The event which proved extremely fruitful in light of the current trends in the banking industry, was opened by Hamad Al-Sager, the Commercial Bank's assistant general manager, personnel & security.

In his inaugural speech he highlighted the role of customers and the urgent necessity of providing them with the best service possible. He called upon the seminar participants to translate into action what they gain from attending this event. Al-Sager thanked IBS for its co-operation in holding the seminar. He welcomed Martin Davis of Dubai World Trade Centre, the director of the seminar. Earlier Dr Bhattacharya of the IBS gave a brief introduction.

The main objectives of the seminar were: how to motivate members of staff to foster customer satisfaction; how to create a company culture that fosters an attitude of service excellence to all; how to complete an indicator to assess participants' own effectiveness in the areas of time, order, people and service; how to set and help staff set standards of quality for the service they offer; how to create implementation plans to use back at the work place; and how to manage staff in order that they can perform at their best — for each other and for the customer.

The main topics Martin Davis discussed were management commitment and staff motivation, the role of staff in service excellence, assessing one's management style, learning to provide excellence and methods of implementation.

Managing for customer satisfaction seminar is another step towards the Commercial Bank's commitment for providing better banking services for its customers.

Vacation classes

For children aged 5 to 15 years.
Drawing, painting, and handicrafts —
texture painting, metal embossing and
dough craft.

Gen. Classes conducted by an experienced
teacher, behind Fahaheel Cinema.
Contact: 3919218, 8 am to 6 pm.

Earthy charm

By Jack E. Wilkinson

● **The Old Gringo:** Noted San Francisco journalist Ambrose Bierce, a broken man with a death wish, crossed the Mexican border in 1913 and was never heard from again. In Carlos Fuentes' richly poetic tale, he imagines Bierce joining Pancho Villa's troops during the Mexican revolution and eventually getting his wish. The big-scale movie version of the Fuentes work is more polemical than poetical, at times ponderous, occasionally nonsensical, though with a certain, authentic earthy charm in its portrayal of the clash of two cultures and three very different people. Gregory Peck makes a rather vague Bierce, a dignified, bemused, cynical observer, a white-manned conscience to the intrigued innocence of school-marm Harriet Winslow (Jane Fonda), also trapped within the revolution, and the haunted, ill-tempered general, Tomas Arroya (Jimmy Smits), who like Bierce is doomed by his conflicting desires. (1989, 119 minutes. RCA/Columbia Home Video. Rated R.)

● **The Bear:** Remarkably conceived and filmed, this is a story of two bears, an orphaned cub and a giant wounded grizzly who befriends him. Together they make their way through the wilderness, over mountains, through icy rivers in a determined bid to escape two human hunters on their trail. The adventure is, of course, loaded with charm, but it has its chilly side. It is, after all, a life and death struggle and, played out before the stunning Bavarian Alps, things can get brutal. Not just for kids, it's an outdoor yarn that should intrigue nature and animal lovers of all ages. (1989, 92 minutes. RCA/Columbia Home Video. Rated PG.)

● **When The Whales Came:** A sentimental, save-the-whales-or-else-fable of a man and a whale. Set on England's Bryher Island just before World War I, the story revolves about an elderly recluse (Paul Scofield), the lone survivor

from a neighbouring island devastated by a curse when the inhabitants preyed on beached narwhal whales. Now, the cursed creatures have run aground on Bryher and it's up to the old man and his two young friends, through whose eyes the story unfolds, to avert another disaster. Good fare for the whole family. (1989, 100 minutes. CBS/Fox Video.)

● **Meet Me In St. Louis:** This captivating musical treat is back in a special enhanced edition, restored from its original technicolor negative. Starring Judy Garland and scene-stealing Margaret O'Brien, the story deals with a family's experiences during the 1903 St. Louis world's fair. Among Judy's showstopping tunes: *The Trolley Song*, *Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas*, *The Boy Next Door*. (1944, 120 minutes. MGM/UA Home Video.)

● **Born To Dance:** The grand Eleanor Powell dances up a storm and James Stewart sings (yes, sings), in this tip-tap musical from the mid-'30s making its video bow. The plot is your basic sailor-meets-girl love story, spiced by a strong cast and some memorable Cole Porter melodies (*Easy To Love*, *I've Got You Under My Skin*). (1936, 105 minutes. MGM/UA Home Video.)

● **The Little Mermaid:** Is swimming rapidly upstream among America's video viewers. The Disney enchantment is the new No. 1 bestseller, according to Billboard magazine, and leaped to No. 6 among rentals. Look Who's Talking is still the top rental.

Some choice films are on tap for June, including *My Left Foot* featuring Oscar-winning Daniel Day-Lewis, the delightful *Always* (June 14) and the volatile *Wall Of The Rose*. The Sylvester Stallone-Kurt Russell actioner *Tango And Cash* is due out soon, while *Steel Dawn* and the documentary *Roger And Me* are slated for release, with the less than celestial *We're No Angels* and *She-Devil*.

There are Oscars, Emmys, Grammys and Tonys. Now, add the Homers. That's the new name for the annual awards for the best on video, chosen by the Video Software Dealers Association. The Homers will be announced at the VSDA Convention Aug 8.

Wood Knapp makes it clear there's sport for all sorts on video cassette with its June 26 "summer fun-and-games" lineup that features *The Smothers Brothers Yo-Yo Man Instructional Video*. (Yo-Yo is included).

Billboard's top 10 video rentals

1. Look Who's Talking — RCA/Columbia Home Video.
2. Sea of Love — MCA-Universal Home Video.
3. Black Rain — Paramount Home Video.
4. Dead Poets Society — Touchstone Home Video.
5. Sex, Lies and Videotape — RCA/Columbia Home Video.
6. The Little Mermaid — Walt Disney Home Video.
7. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation — Warner Home Video.
8. The Abyss — CBS-Fox Video.
9. Next Of Kin — Warner Home Video.
10. Field Of Dreams — MCA-Universal Home Video.

Star Slips

Juhi Chawla: "It's really sad when a film maker of Rakesh Roshan's calibre asks you to dare all-bare all, as Shilpa finally did in *Kishan Kanhaiya*, which I had refused."

Hema Malini: "I am going to launch a feature film under my direction, but definitely not with Dharmendra. I don't want to take him because he won't listen to what I say or want. So what's the point?"

Kirti Kumar: "Brother Govinda is not in his right frame of mind. He is too confused. He does not know what he is doing."

Anja Mahendrar: "Dimple and I are quite friendly. We have so much in common. After all we were both involved with the same man."

Amrita Singh: "I tease Amitabh that I will just for him from diapers to grave. But not so in reality. So what if Rekha got married? I can't be the joker replacing the missing card in his life."



Kumar Gaurav and Amala in Jurrat. Amala is seeking payment from Gaurav's father, Rajendra Kumar.



Indian President R. Venkataraman honours Lata.



A scene from the Marathi award-winner Kalat Nakala.



Kamal Hassan in Appu Raja.

● **Appu Raja:** This is the most awaited film of the season. Kamal Hassan, the megastar of Bombay, is waiting and waiting. For, if this dubbed Hindi version repeats the box-office record of the original, Kamal Hassan will be hot property again. But the actor who has been cooking a snook at all the so-called great Hindi film directors is not likely to lap up their offers too eagerly. No more routine, hackneyed stuff for Hassan, who prefers the laurels to the lolly.

● **Roopa Ganguly:** is determined not to be identified as Drapadi alone. Or so it seems from the way she behaves off-screen. Unlike the Rams and Sitas who enjoyed playing gods and goddesses, Roopa makes it a point to project at her image. Apart from getting rid of those long Draupadi tresses and wearing T-shirts with naughty slogans, she even does an Oye Oye when asked to perform on stage with the rest of the Mahabharata clan. In fact, sometimes embarrassed members of the Chopra team subtly advise her to tone down so that the audiences don't get too stunned seeing their Draupadi alive!

● **Lata Mangeshkar** has often complained about the deteriorating standards of film music. Having worked with the best, it must be frustrating for her to sing for the Annu Malik of today. So it's not surprising that the nightingale has decided to turn composer herself.

Reportedly, she has asked Dev Anand to let her provide the score for his next film. Needless to say, the actor-director is thrilled. For, like the great singer, he too is most unhappy about the way music directors churn out their tunes. With S. D. Burman's passing away, the soul has been missing from his films.

● **Aren't they all the same?** When they are little nobodies dreaming great dreams, they have steady girlfriends who sacrifice everything to make their desires come true. Once they make it as heroes and the girlfriends turn wives, love flies out of the window. The wives have no choice. Silently they

suffer as they watch their puny boyfriends-turned-husbands metamorphose into macho men from Shatrughan Sinha to Shekhar Suman. They are predictably alike. Suman, who has got to achieve stardom, has reduced his wife Alka to a nervous wreck by openly flaunting his affair with the far from Simple Kapadia. Having burnt her boats by marrying a good-for-nothing star aspirant, Alka has nobody to turn to in his hour of distress. The selfish Shekhar, of course, couldn't care less.

Indian Cinema

Regrettable groupism

National Awards '90

By Firoze Rangoonwala

THE tradition of National Awards for films reached its 37th year. The President of India gave away the gold and silver Lotus trophies, along with big cash prizes, at a gala function held recently in Delhi.

Competition, in the arts, with awards given on the basis of comparison can, of course, never satisfy everybody. They are, after all, based on the personal judgements of a few members of the jury who may not be objective about merit. Apart from such prejudices, there are also linguistic, provincial and communal factors to be overcome. The 16 member jury from all over India may perhaps represent a kind of national consensus, if it works by real majority ruling.

Even then, the final choice seemed restricted. Out of 97 feature films entered in 16 different languages, only twenty-six movies shared all the awards. The language division also looks lopsided. Bengali films were in majority, tagged with Assamese, Oriya and the Eastern dialect Karbi. Two or three films each in Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam and Tamil got the awards. There was only one film each in Marathi, Gujarati, Punjabi. Only three Hindi films got comparatively minor awards.

A certain amount of lobbying by Bengali jury members becomes visible for the films of certain directors. The top award for the best feature film went to *Bagh Bahadur*. Though made in Hindi, it is a typical Bengali production by Buddhadeb Dasgupta. And it's a rather thin film about a folk performer unable to survive the onslaught of attractive urban culture and changing times. The second best feature film, also Bengali, is *Panchuramer Kutub* by Nabyendu Chatterji. It portrays the hypocritical attitude of a small town's socio-political forces towards a woman. Its lead actress, Srikleha Mukherji, won the best actress award for playing a wet nurse who is scorned.

Yet another Bengali film *Chhanda Neer* won awards for its lyrics, singer etc. This is a mediocre film by Utpalendu Chakrabarty on a singer's life.

The Karbi film from the East called *Woshipo* is a technically amateurish effort. But this managed to bag two awards. The Bengali film *Kaal Abhirathi* got a special jury award for being "experimental". Satyajit Ray, the veteran, was given a token recognition for his *Ganashatru* and was named the Best Bengali film in the regional list. The Assamese *Banani* and the Oriya *Andha Diganita* got other awards.

The Southern honours were stolen by Adoor Gopalakrishnan for *Mathilukal* (Walls), a film on experiences of the real-life writer V. Mohd Basheer in prison. It actor Mammootty, the famed Malayalam star, got the "best" award for his work in this film as well as T. Hariharan's *Oru Vadakkan Veeragatha*, which also brought the screenplay award to M. T. Vasudevan Nair.

Bombay had to remain satisfied with awards in the smaller categories. Of course, much was made of *Chandni* awarded as the best film providing popular wholesome entertainment, or rather "clean romantic entertainment with smooth performances and fresh folk lyrics". Forgotten was the fact that it shared this award with the Telugu film *Gitanjali*. Moreover, *Maine Pyar Kiya* with its real stardom and musical freshness deserved the award equally but



Mammootty in Mathilukal.

was disqualified because of the hero's fights with his enemies in the climax.

Among other Bombay-based films, *Purinda* won the best supporting actor (Nana Patekar) and best editing. Singer Anuradha Paudwal won an award for the Marathi film *Kalat Nakala*. The Punjabi *Mari Da Deeva* featuring Hindi stars, won in the regional film category. So, too may be counted *Percy* in Parsi-Gujarati. The Bombay industry also felt proud that Anupam Kher received the jury's special mention for "his great finesse and unequalled range" in Mahesh Bhatt's telefilm *Daddy*. But so did Malayalam hero Mohanlal for *Kireedam*.

The commercial industry did not care about Sayeed Mirza's *Saleem Langde Pe Mat Ro* getting the best Hindi film award and best for Photography award. This N.F.D.C. film on communal disharmony is considered an art movie suitable for an elite. Anyway, a triumph for Bombay and Maharashtra was the Dada Saheb Phalke Award bestowed on Lata Mangeshkar, for her long and meritorious contribution. Lata is taken to be neck-deep in popular films.

But there was dissension. Many felt that Lata has been over-honoured and over-awarded. Recently she herself declared that she will not accept any more awards. The Phalke award, decided directly by the Ministry and not the jury always gathers political undercurrents. There is some consideration or the other, for this or that party, region or person. The new National Front government preferred to take a safe non-committal path. By giving an award to Lata it would not be making any political blunder. But then, did Dilip Kumar not deserve it?

Adoor's film *Mathilukal* won four awards. Incidentally it was totally ignored in the Kerala State government's own awards. But Ray's *Ganashatru* got only one, as if its other aspects did not count.

Most interesting are the entries which did not get any award. Conspicuous in Aparna Sen's *Sati* with Shabana Azmi, and *Unni* in Malayalam by G. Aravindan, who is internationally known. Other zero-getters were Basu Chatterji's *Kamla Ki Maus*, Govind Nihalani's *Jacire*, Sachin's *Amavishwa* and Kamalahasan's *Apoorva sagotharagal* in Tamil now made in Hindi as *Appu Raja*.

The jury expressed regrets for not awarding Kumar Shahni's *Khyal Gaita* and Gautam Ghose's *Meeting a Milestone*. Why?

In future, it would be fair if jury groupism is avoided and self-appointed spokesmen and orators like Basu Bhattacharya are kept away. The jury's soft-spoken chairman Atmaram was not happy with the final results!

Mini Meet — Neelam

Seeking a mature image

■ You have retained the innocent girlish image in too many films. How long can you make do with it?

I know. It has been over-played and I have over-shot it. It became popular with *Jawani* and then there were no teenage girls around. So I held the monopoly.

■ Do you feel threatened by the new young heroine boom?

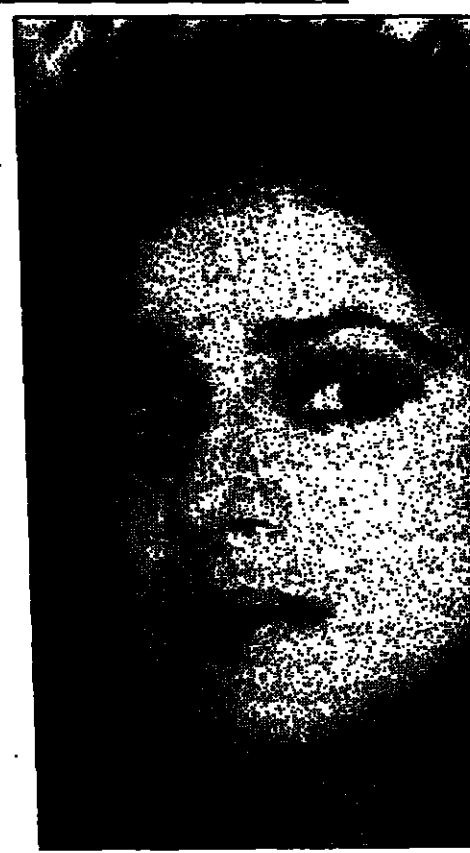
Not exactly. I have my place. Film makers know my worth. Moreover, I am also changing myself, you will see a slightly stout and more mature Neelam in coming films.

■ Which ones? And where do your hopes lie?

Rambhoomi, *Indrajit*, *Vishnu Devaa*. In *Indrajit* I play Amitabh's daughter and Kumar Gaurav's girl. It's a sensible, significant role.

■ Are you leaving romance to other boys and girls?

No, no. I am not so old as all that. Infact, the immediate release is *Afsana Pyar Ka* in which Aamir Khan and I go to college, sing in the rain and indulge in all the yuppie stuff.



Neelam: no more a teenager.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: Although a medication I was taking was supposed to calm my nerves, I became so jumpy and restless that the doctor finally told me to just stop taking the pills. I thought tranquilizers were supposed to quiet you down, but that wasn't the case with me. Can you figure out what went wrong, and please explain it to me?

Answer: The restlessness you describe is a syndrome aptly called "akathisia," which is Greek for "no sitting down." It is a common side effect of several medications for anxiety and other psychiatric problems. Up to 20 per cent of patients taking anti-psychotic medications may develop this syndrome. Akathisia also can develop on its own in patients with Parkinson's Disease.

People suffering from akathisia feel very restless and are very physically active. They fidget and cannot stay seated without squirming for more than a few minutes. They often stand up and walk or march in place, if they are not allowed to walk about. Many patients state that their restlessness is relieved by the activity.

The problem with akathisia as a drug side effect is that it's often thought to be a worsening of the anxiety or psychosis that the drug was supposed to treat. Instead of reducing or eliminating the medication, physicians may be fooled while treating a patient who paces the halls of a hospital or marches in place and may increase the dosage of the medication, which only makes the behaviour worse.

The medications that can cause akathisia include many commonly used tranquilizers, which have a proven desirable effect for the conditions of most patients. If the medication cannot be discontinued

SOME TRANQUILIZERS HAVE UNWANTED SIDE EFFECTS

because it is having a much desired result, the akathisia side effect can be reduced with other drugs. In your case, the solution may be to try another tranquilizer that won't cause the same disruptive side effects.

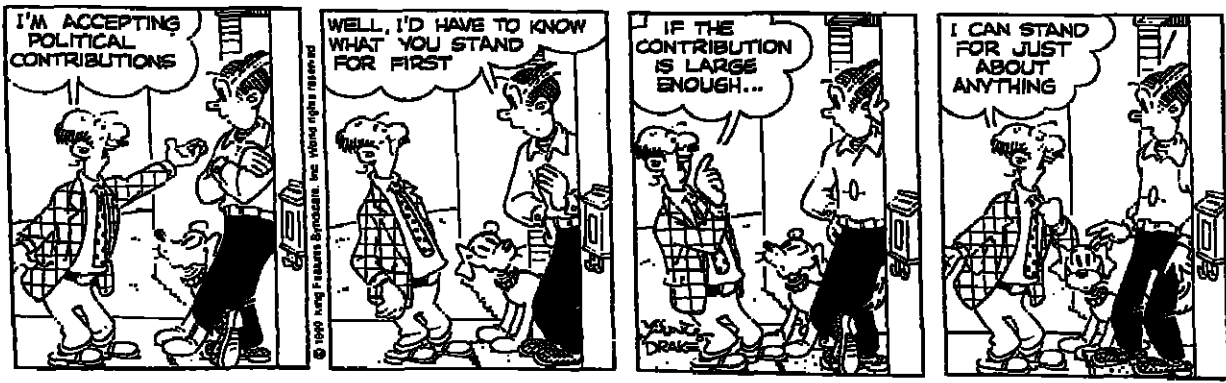
Question: Although we read of many types of tumors and cancers and are told that heart disease causes many deaths, I don't think I've heard of a cancer of the heart. This would certainly be a most tragic disease and something that should receive study. Could you discuss this for me?

Answer: Though there is much to know about preventing cancer of the lungs, and early detection of breast cancers for early treatment, there is a legitimate reason for little discussion of heart tumors. They are among the most uncommon tumors found in post-mortem examinations, with an occurrence rate of only 0.3 per cent. Primary tumors of the heart — those that originate in the heart muscle itself — are mostly benign tumors and don't spread to other parts of the body. The most commonly found growth is called a myxoma, or tumor of the connective tissue.

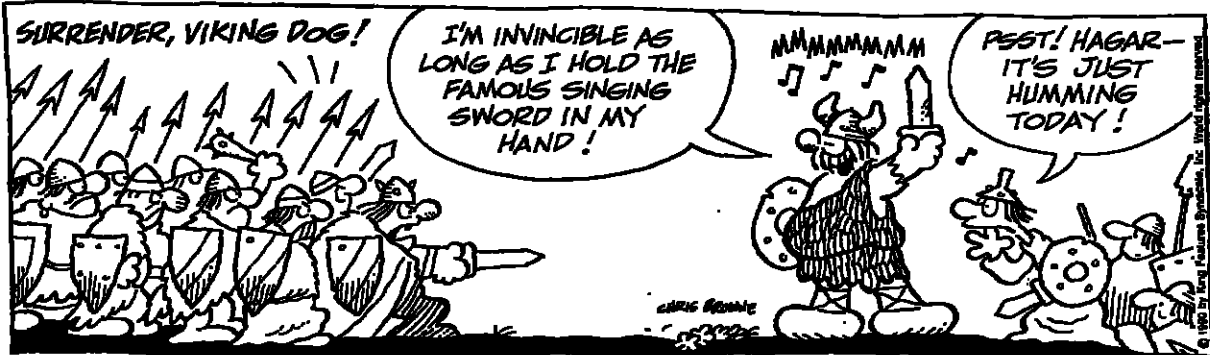
Although the greatest danger with tumors growing in the heart is their ability to disrupt the flow of electrical impulses that control the rate and rhythm of the heartbeat, myxomas also produce symptoms that include weight loss, fatigue, painful joints, fever and even a rash. When the tumors grow into the cavity of the heart, they can also interrupt the easy passage of blood through the heart.

While the study of any disease leads to knowledge that may help fight other illnesses, it's the major diseases that receive the most attention, and that's the way it should be.

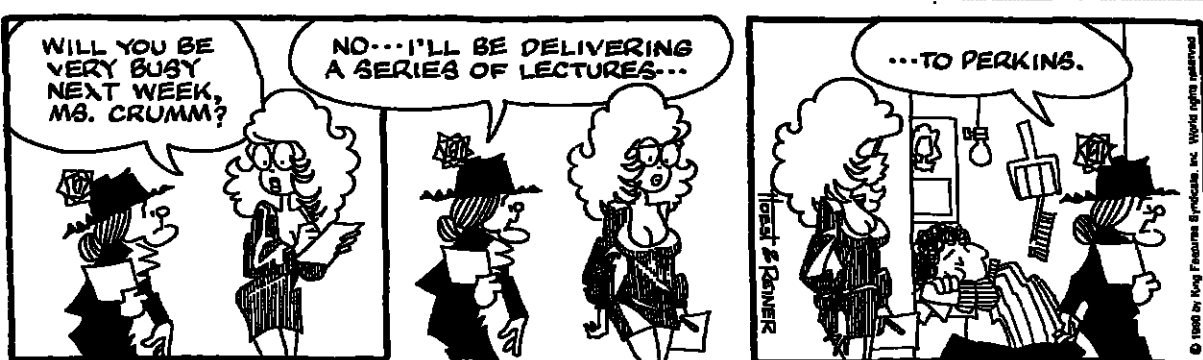
BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



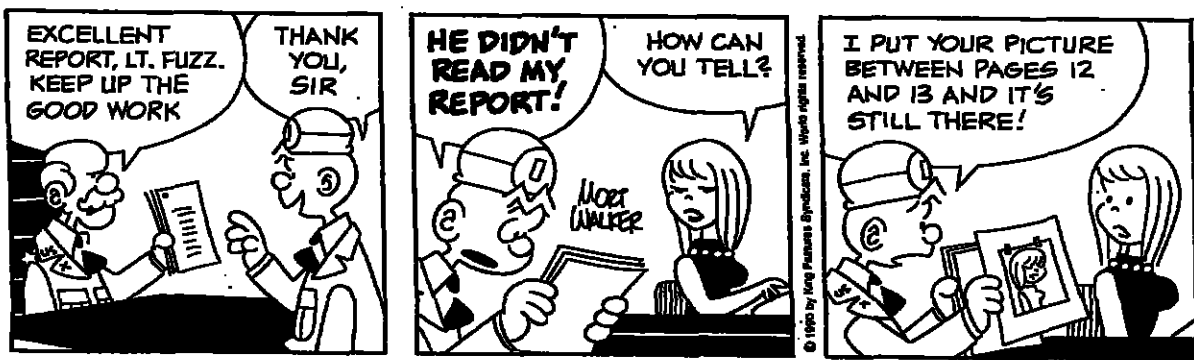
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



BEETLE BAILEY



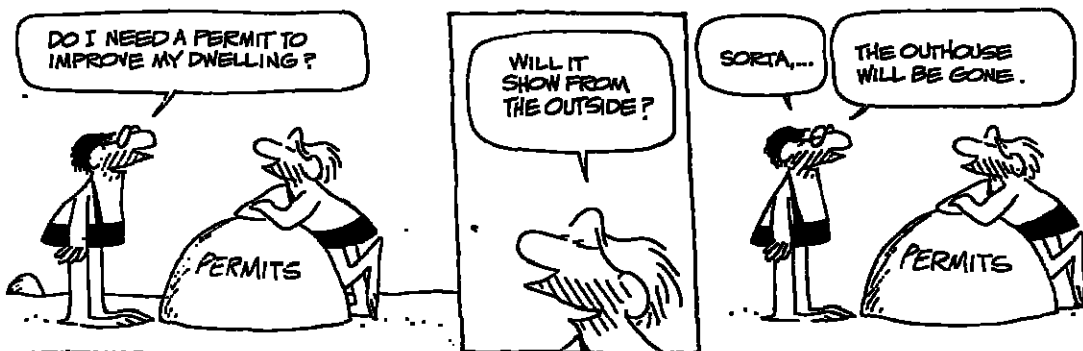
THE WIZARD OF ID



ANDY CAPP



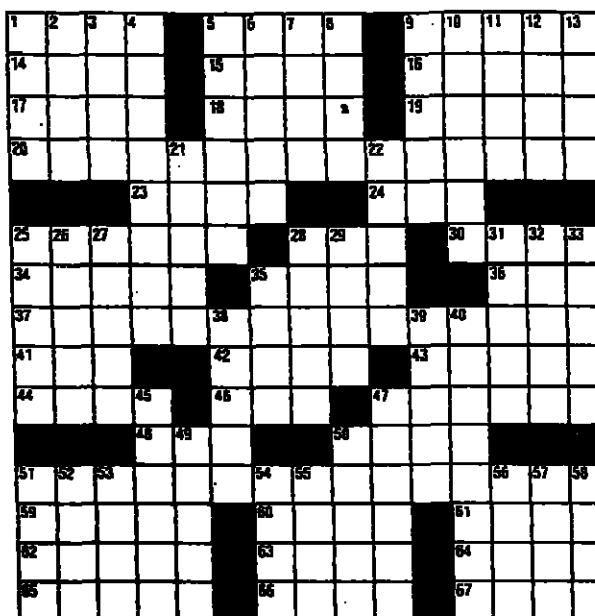
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Fenton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Judge's seat
 - Lip
 - Black or Valentine
 - In a muddle
 - Landed
 - Martini embellishment
 - Word on a Japanese ship
 - Musical sound
 - Charges
 - Evoking trouble
 - Unit of force
 - Jabber
 - Beautiful maidens of Moslem myth
 - Eisenhower
 - Don't put these on
 - "Rubber" city
 - Aware of
 - Flying org.
 - Evoking trouble
 - New Guinea seaport
 - Provokes
 - Successful job seeker
 - Frogner Park city
 - Devoured
 - Lids
 - Actor-director Howard
 - East a ballot
 - Evoking trouble
 - Main artery
 - Make more comfortable
 - Hebrides island
 - Kirstie of "Cheers"
 - Ripener
 - Astound
 - City in W. Yorkshire
 - Go ahead of
 - Attention-
- DOWN**
- getting noise
 - Resounding sounds
 - Pronto, for short
 - Saint Philip
 - Boller for witches' brew
 - Shiny materials
 - Solo
 - Carol
 - Editor's notation
 - Divided country
 - "Seward's Folly"
 - A Hayworth
 - Daredevil
 - Knives
 - Fit snugly
 - Prevaricating
 - Laughing
 - I speak, in Spanish
 - Soup
 - vegetables
 - Archangel
 - Preside
 - Japanese
 - seaport
 - Become accustomed to
 - Speedster
 - "For both our —": Shak.
 - Part of a monogram
 - Abbr.
 - Mideasterner
 - Garment for Gandhi
 - Inscrutable
 - 45 Took to a soapbox
 - Those on their way up
 - Approves
 - Containers for carnations
 - False god
 - Miss Daisy, to Tandy
 - Perry's creator
 - Kind of tide
 - Phyllis
 - French cooking term
 - Burden
 - Carry on

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

SAGS CAMA ECLAT
EBON ABEL LOIRE
RONA SADE OLIVES
OVEREATER ELECT
WORLDBEATER WAY
GAM ASIT
RIFLE ERST ORES
ARIA UNITS GELT
MARS STOA SASSY
SHOE BAH
APT FRONTRUNNER
SERIF SOLITAIRE
TRACE IRIS TONS
ESTER EINE ABET
REEDS RAGS LESS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

NONE BUT THE BRAVE

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH

♠ K 8

♥ A 10

♦ K J 9 7 3

♣ A 10 8 3

EAST

♠ A J 9

♥ K J 7 6 2

♦ A Q 5

♣ K 6

WEST

♠ Q 5 4 3 2

♥ 5

♦ 10 6 2

♣ J 9 7 4

SOUTH

♠ 10 7 6

♥ Q 9 8 4 3

♦ 8 4

♣ Q 5 2

The bidding:

East 1♥

South Pass

West 2♣

North Dbl

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

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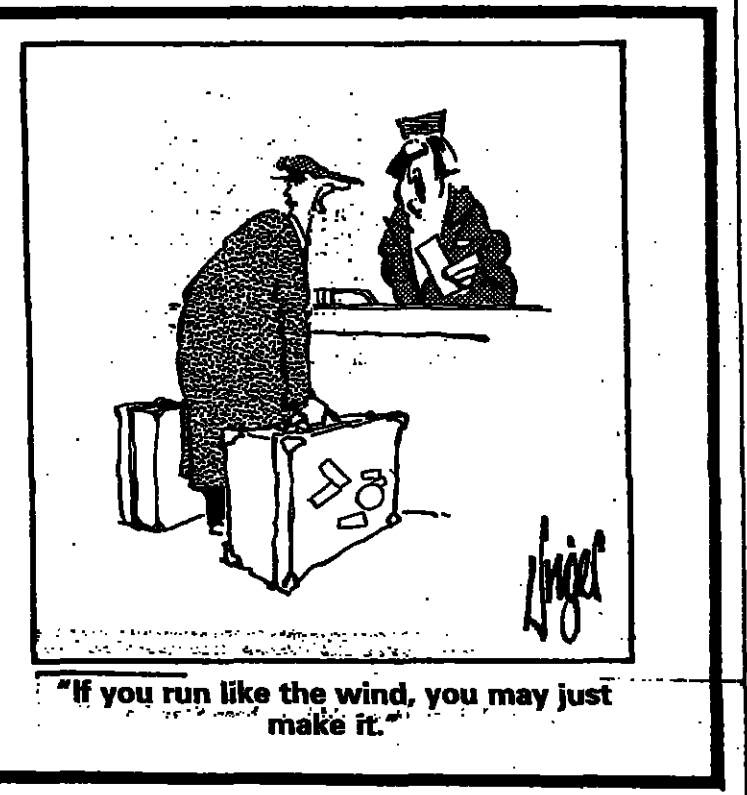
Pass

spade support. Since South had a clear preference in the minor suits, his bid of two clubs was to prevent North running from the redouble to two diamonds. Lawrence wielded the ace, partly as a warning to partner not to bid on, then defended beautifully to reap the maximum dividend.

Dummy's ace won the first trick and, with nothing better to do, declarer returned a heart. East took the king and switched to the king of trumps, taken by the ace.

When declarer next led a low diamond off dummy, East inserted the queen to lead another trump through declarer, who played low, allowing West to win the jack and return a trump to the queen.

A diamond to the jack forced the ace and East exited with a heart. Declarer inserted the eight and Lawrence discarded! Next came the queen of hearts and Lawrence again refused to ruff. Declarer ruffed his last heart in dummy, but that was North-South's sixth and last trick. Note that had Lawrence ruffed, declarer would have been down only one. Dummy would have been able to overruff and cash three diamond winners to go with two trump tricks and the ace of hearts.

Aries
March 21 - April 20

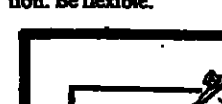
A tendency to take things too much for granted will have to be overcome. You will be tempted to eat more than you should, do not succumb. You should not lose the courage of your convictions. Be considerate.

Taurus
April 21 - May 20

Try to avoid making things more complicated for yourself. Once you reduce the weight you like to be stuck to a sensible diet to maintain it. Make sure you keep a promise that you have made. Be more optimistic.

Gemini
May 21 - June 20

You will be able to make certain changes for the better. You should not think you have all the answers; if you do think so you are certainly wrong. Your lucky numbers are 18 and 35. Make sure your partner is in no doubt about your love and affection. Be flexible.

Cancer
June 21 - July 20

You are liable to mistake what you would like to be for what is, and should try to exercise a little more realism. You will find it hard to make up your mind but you must not try to sit on the fence. Instead of being jealous of those who enjoy living try joining them. Be tactful.

Leo
July 21 - Aug. 20

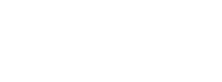
Make sure you do not fall behind with paying regular bills. Some matter of relatively small importance should not be allowed to take up too much of your time. Look out for mistakes and not only those made by others. Be considerate.

Virgo
Aug. 21 - Sept. 20

You are rather given to gossip and idle chatter and should restrain yourself. Do check your figures, remember that calculators only act on what you feed into them. Do not take everything quite so seriously but avoid frivolity. Be reasonable.

Libra
Sept. 21 - Oct. 20

You are all too easily distracted and should do what you can to concentrate your mind. Try to work in surroundings that are agreeable to you. Avoid saying anything that you do not really mean. Be fair.

Scorpio
Oct. 21 - Nov. 20

Take a little more care about your personal appearance. You will have something to be pleased about but do not let it go to your head. There remains a lot to learn and you should not hesitate to do so, however, old you are. Be generous.

Capricorn
Dec. 21 - Jan. 19

You should not leave any doors or windows open there are burglars about. If someone is rude to you try to ignore it instead of losing your temper. You will get further with charm and persuasion than by using force. Be aware.

Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

You are liable to make some unwarranted assumptions. You would do well to be a little more tidy and cleanly. Watch out you are liable to miss an important fact and if you do your surmise will be valueless. Be industrious.

Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20

Something you do not much like doing will have to be done. Do it now and then it will be out of the way. Have a little more faith in yourself as well as confidence in those close to you. Be tolerance.

... in new controversy

family when the Russian revolution broke out, has played three Russians in the span of almost a decade. The first was an astronaut scientist in "2010" (1984), the next was a retired ballerina in "White Nights" and earlier this year she was in HBO's "Red King, White Knight," which was shot in Budapest. In the latter she played another mysterious Soviet, opposite Tom Skerritt as a CIA agent and her lover, and Max von Sydow as his Soviet counterpart.

and, she says now: "In a certain way God smiled on me. I wouldn't have wanted to have had great success very early on. I think particularly now when the media is so enormous and so immed-

Mary Corleone. The first two films in the trilogy grossed more than \$700 million for the studio.



Scheduled for release this holiday season, the final production in Paramount's mafia family trilogy has cost approximately \$55 million, making it one of the most expensive movies ever made.

Al Pacino reprises his role as Michael Corleone with Coppola's 18-year-old daughter Sofia replacing Winona Ryder as Mary Corleone. The first two films in the trilogy grossed more than \$700 million for the studio.



Forgotten



Lords of the Nursery
Wait in a row,
Five on the high wall,
And four on the low;
Big Kings and Little
Kings,
Brown Bears and Black,
All of them waiting
Till John comes back.
Some think that John
boy
Is lost in the wood,
Some say he couldn't be,
Some say he could.
Some think that John
boy
Hides on the hill;
Some say he won't come
back.
Some say he will.
High was the sun, when
John went away.....
Here they've been wait-
ing
All through the day;
Big Bears and Little
Bears,
White Kings and Black,
All of them waiting
Till John comes back.
Lords of the Nursery
Looked down the hill,
Some saw the sheep-
fold,
Some saw the mill;
Some saw the roofs
Of the little grey town....
And their shadows grew
long
As the sun slept down.
Gold between the
poplars
An old moon shows;
Silver up the star-way
The full moon rose;
Silver down the star-way
The old moon crept....
And, one by another,
The grey fields slept.
Lords of the Nursery
Their still watch keep...
They hear from the
sheep-fold
The rustle of sheep.
A young bird twitters
And hides its head;
A little wind suddenly
Breathes, and is dead.
Slowly and slowly
Dawns the new day...
What's become of John
boy?
No one can say.
Some think that John
boy
Is lost on the hill;
Some say he won't come
back.
Some say he will.
What's become of John
boy?
Nothing at all.
He played with his skip-
ping rope.
He played with his ball.
He ran after butterflies,
Blues ones and red.
He did a hundred happy
things—
And then went to bed.

What is a ghost's favourite
music?
Haunting melodies.

What job did the lady ghost
have on an aeroplane?
An air ghostess.

Where do ghosts like to
swim?
In the Dead Sea.

Join the dots

Night sky.



Dear Junior readers,

If you are leaving Kuwait during
your summer holidays, do not
forget to take a reliable camera
and rolls of film.

Taking photographs of new
places, people and cultures is
not only fun but beautiful to
remember of later dates. Even if
you are going to your homeland
and will be meeting the same
people you see every year, these
people will have grown older
one year and they will change
during the up-coming year too.
If the lands you visit are
strange, make the most of your
visit by sightseeing and explor-
ing traditions like different food
and clothing. Try and under-
stand why the traditions are
useful for the culture and way of
life.

Always keep a small notepad
and a pencil with you so that
you can jot down the things you
may forget. When you have
spare time, before going to bed
for example, think of all new
things you learnt during the day.
Finally, when you return to
Kuwait write down all your new
experiences, with photographs
and mail them to JUNIOR
TIMES. We will be happy to print
them.

Have a pleasant holiday.

Mandi

Modern English School



Cinderella and her friends.

Finding out about ten (10)

Colour in orange the 10 family.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

How far can you count in tens?

I can count up to in tens.

Write and draw The Story of Ten.

These words may help you
fingers toes 10p telephone dial

dominoes.

.....

.....

.....

.....



WHEN grade 5 PA from the Modern School go on holiday for the
summer, they will leave behind them, at school, some new
members of the class. Dracula, Snow White, Rambo, Robin
Hood, Bugs Bunny, Pinocchio and Sleeping Beauty.
The 6 foot tall figures were made in the Art class as part of a
project called "I Love to Read" month.
The children all enjoyed making the puppets and so did the
teacher Mrs West, most of the time.



Robin Hood and his friends.



Sleeping Beauty and her friends.



Dracula (with a dead body) and his friends.

Jeans are called jeans because they were
first made in the city of Genoa in Italy.
The French name for that city is Genes.

The latest method the American Navy
have used for recovering torpedoes
which have been lost in deep water is by
sending trained whales to retrieve
them.

Charles II was the first British king to
go to a public theatre. It was also in his
reign that the first women were allowed
to act the female parts in plays. Before
then these parts were taken by young
boys.

It was in 2,700 BC that the world's first
roads were built in China. But it was
not until 1000 years later that the first
wheeled vehicles were invented.

In the year AD 603 the last Roman
Senate met. It had been in power for
over 1000 years before that.

The idea of a tunnel under the English
Channel is not as new as you might
imagine; in Napoleon's reign it was
first proposed. Eighty years later in
1880 it was rejected by the British
because it would make Britain easier to
attack.

The first dentists in Japan pulled teeth
with their fingers. They had to practise
to make their fingers stronger to do so.

The first Cinderella did not wear glass
slippers. That idea came from a mis-
translation from the French. The
words for 'squirrel fur' and that for
'glass' are similar in French; 'vair' and

verre'. A glass slipper does sound more
romantic though.

Sir Issac Newton was probably the
greatest scientist the world has ever
known. The legend of his discovery of
gravity by watching an apple fall is one
of the few legends that are true. But
Newton left school as a teenager to
follow his first choice of career; to be a
farmer.

Football was first played by the Chin-
ese in about 350 BC. It was called 'Tsu
Chu'. It was played in England from
the twelfth century but no rules were
used until 1846.

In 1709 the first recorded ascent in a hot
air balloon took place in Portugal —
inside the Casa da India.

Laszlo Biro invented the first ball-point
pen that was successful. He was in fact a
Hungarian hypnotist and not an inven-
tor. In 1959 when the first throw-away
biros were sold in the shops over 33
million were sold in the first year.

Frank Wootton was England's leading
jockey from 1909 to 1912. He won his
first race when he was only nine years
old.

The last words of Joel Chandler Harris,
the American writer who wrote the
Uncle Remus stories, when asked how
he felt were; "I am about the extent of a
gnat's eyebrow better."

You can generally tell if a person is left
or right handed by which foot they put
into their trousers first.

The song 'Yankee Doodle Dandy'
refers to Oliver Cromwell, though most
people think it was first sung during the
American Civil War. The line 'he stuck
a feather in his hat and called it
macaroni' refers to a strange Italian hat
with a long feather of which Cromwell
was particularly fond.

The first farmers in America were
women. At that time men went hunting
and fishing while the women ran the
farms.

One of the first remedies for toothache
was to eat a mouse. Even the dentist
does not sound so bad after that!

When the ballet 'The Rite of Spring' by
Stravinsky was first performed it
caused a bit of a stir. In fact the

audience was so outraged by its very
different style that a riot broke out and
Stravinsky had to escape from the
crowd by crawling out of the theatre's
back window.

In Tibet when a guest first arrives at
your house it is the custom to greet
them by sticking your tongue out at
them.

The fifteenth century saw the last
fashion in diamond jewellery for men
finally disappear. Before then it was
men, not women who wore diamonds.

The first 'Teddy Bears' were named
after the American President,
Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt, who was
once photographed with a baby bear
that set the fashion of toy teddy bears
that has lasted ever since.

Wordsearch

KEEP ON SMILING

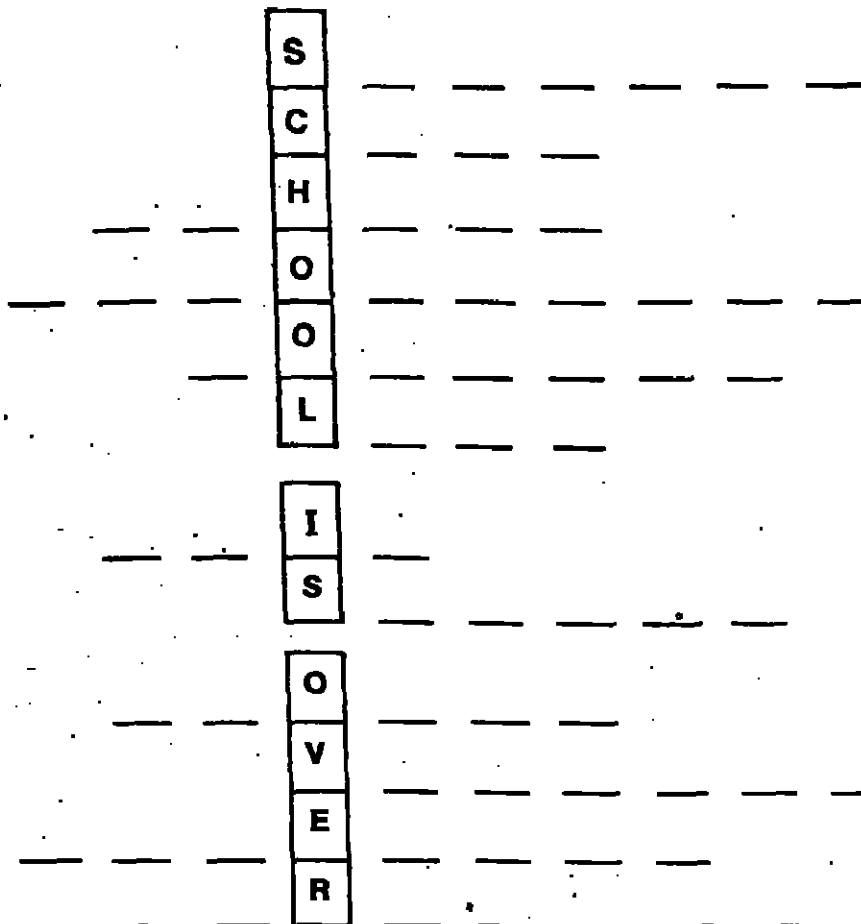
ABSURD
AMUSED
BERLE
BRICE
CHAPLIN
COMIC
FARCE
FOOL
FUNNY
GAGS
GLEE
GOBEL
GRINS

HOPE
HUMOR
JEST
KAYE
KNOTTS
LAUGH
MARX
QUIP
PUNS
RIVERS
ZANY

G G L G C C S T E J C C L
E Y A K L I N E C H O W
S G Y G G M M S U A R Q U
S N L N E O T D P P U A F
X E I N N C L L R I M O F
E E R R U U I L P U O O R
L E B O G N F R S L S T T
X S S S E L R E B B L B L
T R T R R H D L E P O H A
J A A T U E Z Z Z L E T U
Q U I M O R V A T E U Q L
P L O O R N N I H G U A L
T R E E M Y K E R L L U A

Now The Fun Begins

Directions: Place the words from the list below in the spaces. Place one letter in each space. Use each word only once.



Word List:

lazy
baseball
summer

surfing
camp
shorts

school
swim
report card

barefeet
vacation
holiday

Happy birthday



Maria Dias turns 11 on June 8.



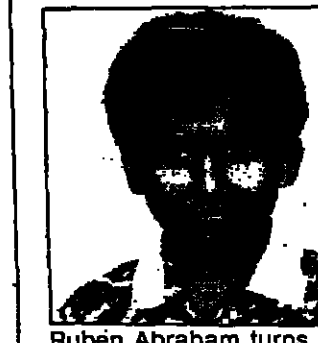
Alagumail turns 17 today June 7.



Kristal Mathias on June 7.



Charmaine Tellis turns 10 today, June 7.



Ruben Abraham turns 11 on June 10.



Ria D'Souza turned 4 on June 6.

Just for laughs!

The eldest of six boys had just passed his driving-test. His brothers gathered round enviously to congratulate him, to which he replied graciously, 'Thanks, boys. And I tell you what: now that I've got my own car, you can all move up one bike!'

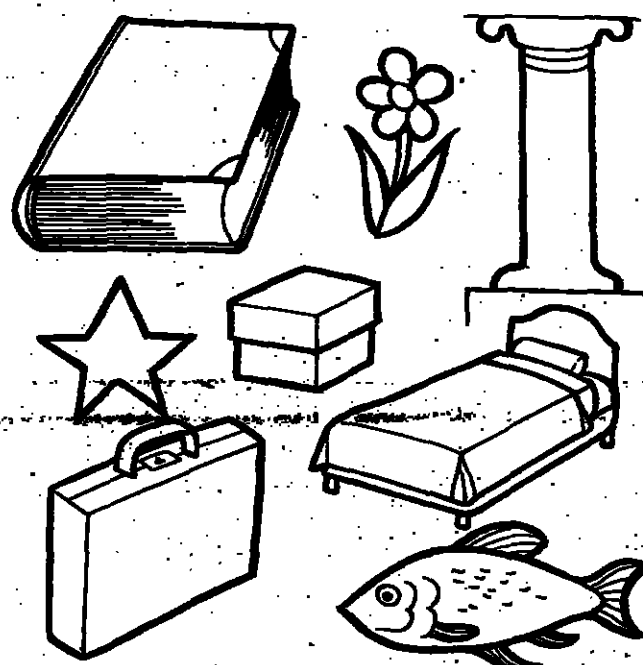
What walks on its head all day?
A drawing-pin stuck in your shoe.

What did the jack say to the car?
'Can I give you a lift?'

Why do we sing Hymns in church and not Hers?
Because they all finish with Amen and not Awomen

Double-Barrelled Words

Pair up these objects to make four double-barrelled names for other objects.



About buildings and other structures



In 1975, a complete 400-year old church in Czechoslovakia was moved 730m (800 yards) to a new site.

The clock tower at the Houses of Parliament in London is referred to as 'Big Ben'. 'Big Ben' in fact the name of the bell inside, and is named after Sir Benjamin Hall, a tall and rather fat man who was commissioner of works when the bell was cast.

The lighthouse at the island of Pharos was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. It was built of white marble, and stood 134, (440ft) high. Fires were lit at the top to guide seamen.

The famous 'leaning tower' at Pisa in Italy was originally built as a bell tower, and was completed in the 14th century. It has gradually become more and more tilted, and is now about 5.6m (18ft) out of true.

Knole House, a stately home in England, has 365 rooms, 52 staircases, and 7 courtyards — one for each day of the year, one for each week of the year, and one for each day of the week!

At nearly 170 km (105 miles), the West Delaware water supply tunnel in New York City is the world's longest tunnel. The longest conventional railway tunnel is that running under the Tanigawa mountain in Japan, at 22.2 km (13 mi), and the longest road tunnel the St Gotthard tunnel in Switzerland, which runs for 16km (10 mi) and cost £176,600,000 to build. In 1985 ambitious plans were announced for a 50km (30 mi) railway tunnel under the English Channel, between Britain and France, at a cost of about £2 1/2 billion.

There are two obelisks called Cleopatra's Needle, one standing in London and one in New York. Neither has anything at all to do with Cleopatra, but were dedicated to the pharaoh Thothmes III.

The Great Wall of China is 2400km (1500 miles) or more in length, 12m (40 ft) high, and 4.5m (15ft) across remarkable for a structure built in the third century BC.

Another remarkable ancient structure is the great pyramid at Geza, Egypt, which is 230m (750ft) square, and made of about 2,300,000 blocks of stone, each weighing 2 1/4 tonnes.

The largest Gothic cathedral in the world is still under construction. The Cathedral of St John the Divine in New York has been carefully built by hand. It has taken almost 100 years to reach its present state and the work will continue for several more decades.

Saint Sophia at Istanbul was built in AD 532-537 as a Christian cathedral. It has since been a Islamic mosque, and is now a museum.

The tallest cathedral spire in the world is that of Ulm cathedral in Germany, which stretches to 160m (528ft).

In 1945 a B-52 bomber hit the Empire State Building in New York, then the tallest building in the world, killing 14 people.

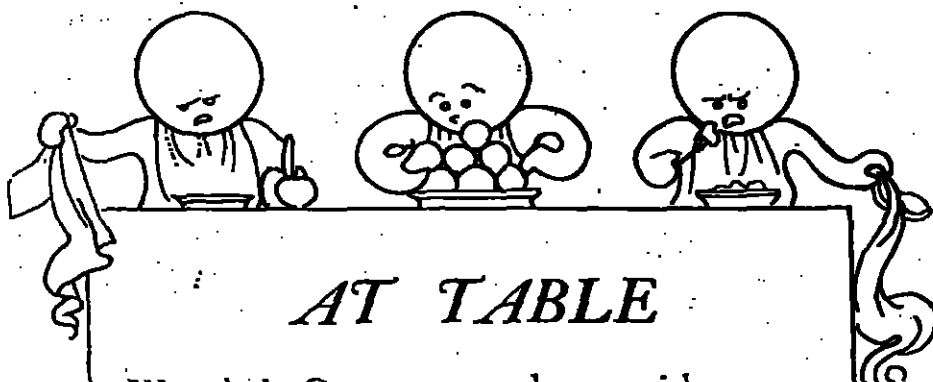
The first London Bridge was almost certainly constructed of wood, and was built between AD 180 and 400, during the Roman occupation. It was burnt down several centuries later, in 1014.

The Colossus of Rhodes was a huge statue of the sun god Helios, 52m (170ft) high. It took 12 years to build, and was completed in the year 304 BC. It was destroyed by an earthquake 500 years later.

The interior of the Vertical Assembly Building, constructed to hold four of the giant Saturn V rockets built by Nasa to send men to the moon, is so vast that a special air-conditioning system had to be designed to stop clouds forming and rain falling inside the building!

The world's largest theatre is in Perth, Western Australia, and can seat over 8000 people in front of a stage covering 1150sq m (12,000 sq ft). The oldest indoor theatre in the world is the Teatro Olimpico at Vicenza in Italy, built in 1583.

The Goops again



AT TABLE

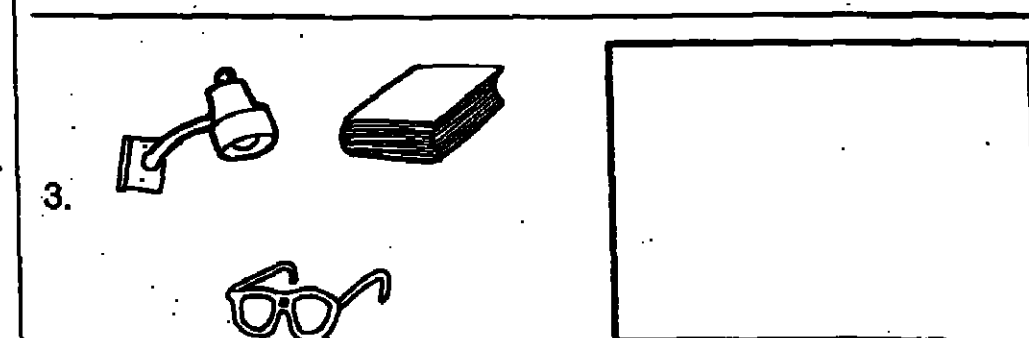
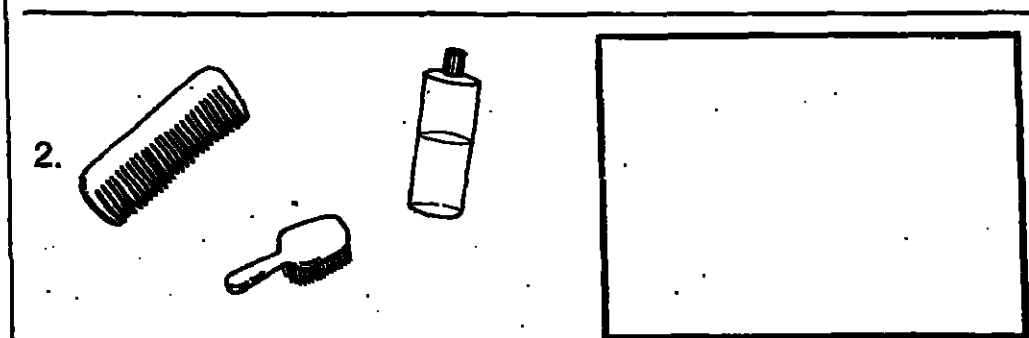
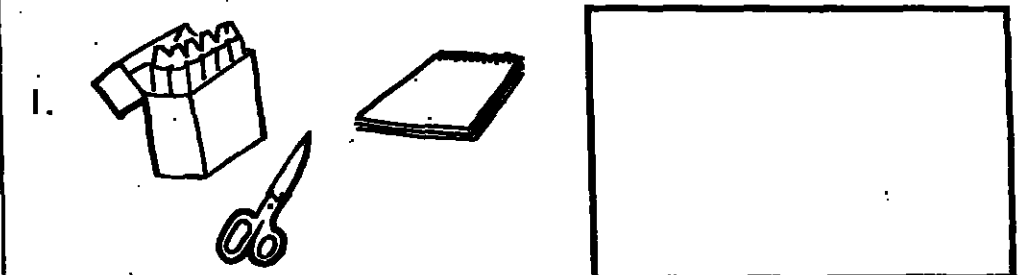
Why is it Goops must always wish
To touch *each* apple on the dish?
Why do they never neatly fold
Their napkins until they are told?
Why do they play with food, and bite
Such awful mouthfuls? Is it right?
Why do they tilt back in their chairs?
Because they're Goops! So no one cares!



Colouring time



Look at the **three** objects in each row. Decide what can be done with them. Draw your answer in the empty box. Then write a sentence that tells about your picture.



VIDEO CORNER

Quality is in short supply

By Shaun Seekins

GENE Hackmann and Dan Aykroyd are two of the most productive topline actors in Hollywood, and both have appeared in more than one release already this year. Alas quality does not always go hand in hand with quantity, and with the exception of his role in this year's top Oscar winner *Driving Miss Daisy*, Aykroyd has starred recently in a lot of very mediocre comedies. This week seeks the release of a new comedy starring both actors as a pair of mismatched cops. *Loose Cannons* teams Hackmann as a playfully crazy homicide detective, living out of a suitcase, with Aykroyd as a genuinely crazy forensic expert who takes on a movie or TV personality's character when faced with a life-threatening situation.

The case which throws them both together is also weird: a copy of a dated porno-film starring none other than Adolf Hitler and his boys has fallen into the hands of a dealer played by Dom DeLuise. Unknown to him, the film includes footage which reveals a current high ranking European leader to be a war criminal. The latter has sent his henchmen to retrieve the film at any cost. The result is an action comedy which doesn't quite make it. Hackmann does his best and manages to elicit a chuckle now and then, but Aykroyd is lucky to have at least some moments when he is not downright embarrassing.

I quickly moved on to *Stella*, Bette Midler's latest movie, thinking that at least here was an actress whose last four or five movies have all been pretty good. Alas, no improvement. Midler plays the good-hearted, well-intentioned lower class gal, whose pride and stubbornness reach new heights of stupidity, and ruin not only her life, but that of her daughter and all who

Dan Aykroyd and Gene Hackman team up in the comedy thriller *Loose Cannons*.

wish to give her a helping hand. This tired, and overused plot of the self sacrificing woman worked a fairly well in the Thirties, but surely today's morality requires a more realistic attitude.

Midler is a barmaid who has a daughter from an affair with a well-to-do medical student. She refuses to marry him and will not accept the financial help he offers. Professing to be the shining example of a strong-willed, self-reliant woman of the nineties, she forces her daughter into a situation where she has to suffer the ridicule of her class-conscious school friends, and do without a lot of the basics. Stella even cuts herself out of her daughter's life for her own good, and refuses to go to her wedding! Instead of appearing as the brave and noble woman intended no doubt by Midler, Stella will probably be seen by most audiences as a silly chump.

Kylie Minogue's cinema debut at least didn't give me any great expectations, and *The Delinquents* turned out to be a predic-

table story of teenage love, with all the adults against the relationship, forcing the couple to run away time and time again, eventually resulting in Kylie ending up in a 'corrective institution'. The storyline is weak and the script thin, but never mind, with Kylie riding on the crest of the wave, (9 top 5 single hits), there are sure to be enough young, curious and incurable romantics to ensure good rentals at the video shops.

Jessica Lange has had two theatrical releases lately, and the first to reach Kuwait is *Men Don't Leave*, a much stronger and more realistic testament to the strength of the American woman than *Stella*. When her husband dies, Beth Macaulay is forced to sell the house and move to the city, where she finds work to support herself and the children. By concentrating on the financial aspects of her problems, she begins to lose her teenage sons — one of whom seeks a more loving relationship and the other who turns to petty

crime. Like 'Stella', she seeks inner strength to overcome her problems and ends up an emotional wreck. Only when she begins to accept help from her new boyfriend and son's girlfriend, does she realise that she attempts to protect her family unit were wrong, and that by opening it to encompass other caring people she ultimately saves their relationship. Although somewhat sugary in parts, *Men Don't Leave* is a well acted and fresh look at the problems, facing families in today's America.

Mystery Train is the latest effort of cult film director Jim Jarmusch (Down By Law, Stranger Than Paradise). In another variation of his stranger-in-a-foreign-land theme, he follows three groups of drifters as they pass through Elvis Presley's home town of Memphis, linking them together as they all stay in the same flea-bag hotel. The first segment shows a pair of young Japanese tourists who wander through Memphis arguing about

the relative merits of Elvis and his contemporaries. In part two a pretty young Italian widow is trapped in Memphis by airline problems, and afraid of the people she meets, checks into the hotel with a talkative stranger called Deedee. Both groups hear a mysterious gunshot in the hotel, which turns out to be the result of an argument between three drunken bruisers out on a pretty crime spree, one of whom ends up with a bullet in his leg following a night of arguments and discussions about old TV programmes. All three stories are quite entertaining, and the film offers a comic bonus in the form of the hotel's night manager and Bellman. This week's best seller is *Bangkok Hilton*, a good yarn about drug dealing in Bangkok's central jail. *L.A. Law* is back with a new series and sports fans can choose between new basketball, golf and Formula 1.

The above movies are by courtesy of Video Club, Salmiya; VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya, and Video Nauti, Salmiya Complex.

Laughter: a serious business for Aykroyd

By Frank Durham

THE business of making people laugh is something Dan Aykroyd takes very seriously.

In his latest film, the comedy thriller *Loose Cannons*, he plays police forensic expert Ellis Fielding who brings an entourage of famous friends to the job.

Ellis, you see, has a peculiar disorder. Whenever danger threatens, he cops out by assuming the personality of, among others, the Wicked Witch of the West, I love Lucy's Ricky Ricardo and cartoon characters like Roadrunner and Popeye.

To get himself ready for the role, Aykroyd—who was once a psychology student at Carlton University in Ottawa—hit the textbooks again to study up on deviant behaviour and multiple-personality syndrome.

He says: "One case—a London banker—went off and became Winston Churchill for three years. He really was convinced he was Churchill. So I took that as a model."

"Most people think I've played a really crazy person before but in the Couch Trip I portrayed a guy who was pretending to be crazy. I've never actually played a guy who is technically a multiple personality."

"This is the wildest role I've ever had."

His approach was the same when he was cast as Sergeant Joe Friday in the film *Dragnet*, a send-up of the TV series of the Fifties and Sixties.

He was playing the namesake nephew of the deadpan cop who always seemed hilarious to the teen-age Aykroyd.

"I used to watch his bust tips on the show and we all laughed at that as well as at the way he talked," he says.

But the laughing had to stop

when it came to copying the style of the Jack (just the facts, ma'am) Webb.

Aykroyd spent hours a day learning to walk and talk like the original Friday. He studied 40 black-and-white and 25 colour episodes of the old series, watching them over and over again.

"I carried a tape of Jack Webb with me on the set and played it before every scene," he says. "Jack would spin in his grave a few times if he saw the film."

Aykroyd's genius for making people laugh has made his bank manager one of the happiest people in the world.

Ghostbusters, which he also

Aykroyd (left) brings the Zany screen persona from his like *Ghostbusters* to the semi-straight *Loose Cannons* co-starring Oscar winner Gene Hackman.

wife Donna Dixon was even pregnant.

It worked. Both Dan and Sigourney missed the Royal premiere of *Ghostbusters II* in front of Princess Anne because they had new babies. Donna's and Dan's daughter was born

cop just moved from vice to homicide and given Aykroyd as a partner.

Playing a policeman is not a new experience for Hackman, who has clocked up more than 50 films in his 25-year career. His arresting performance as Popeye

The making of *Loose Cannon*

co-wrote, was the biggest grossing comedy of all time. It raked in \$300,000,000 at the box office and in video sales.

For *Ghostbusters II*, stars Bill Murray, Sigourney Weaver and Aykroyd all gambled on a share of the profits instead of a salary. The film took \$160,000,000 in its first month in America and their payout was reckoned at about \$20,000,000 apiece.

But Aykroyd says he co-wrote the original blockbuster because he felt ghosts were being seriously neglected in cinema.

"Sure I believe in ghosts—free-falling, full-torso vaporous apparitions. I've seen them." So says the actor who is a member of several psychic societies and whose father was a medium.

"My dad used to talk to them," he adds mysteriously.

Aykroyd's seriousness is not confined to his work. So keen was he on becoming a father that he converted a room of his luxury Hollywood home into a nursery and hired two nannies before his

just 24 hours before.

Aykroyd, who is 37, says dishing Donna put an end to his wild bachelor days. He says: "She's changed me. The party days are over."

He was born on a farm in Canada and studied political science and criminal psychology as well as psychology at Carlton. He was also active in the college's Drama Guild.

The multi-talented Aykroyd, who has starred in a series of wildly successful films, was 20 when he first went into show business producing, co-writing and acting in a series of 15-minute comedy shows for a private cable company.

Aykroyd, who had a major hit on his hands with Eddie Murphy in *Trading Places*, has added yet another string to his bow. In 1986 he made his first move into large-scale producing with *One More Saturday Night* for the cable market.

Loose Cannons teams him with Gene Hackman as Mac Stern, a

Doyle in *The French Connection* won him an Oscar in 1971.

He already had an Oscar nomination to his credit for *I Never Sang For My Father*.

Besides his Oscar, he has since clocked up an impressive record of a British Academy Award, several Golden Globes, a Cannes Festival Best Actor prize and a National Association of Theatre Owners' award.

Loose Cannons was not the easiest film he has ever worked on. In one of the scenes shot on location in New York, he had to commandeer a bus in Times Square and crash it through traffic to get across town to Grand Central Station.

Shooting started at 5 am on a hot summer day at the start of a week when the temperature never dipped below 90 deg. Since no-one could find an air-conditioned bus, he had to sweat his way through take after take in one that felt like an oven on wheels.

Then it was over to Central

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Kaola: cartoons
9.45 Good Morning: magazine show
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite (repeat)
10.15 Al Sid Fi Al Hawa: Arabic serial
11.00 Good Morning
11.15 Open University
12.15 Huwar Wa Nagham: prepared by Khaled Bu Hamad, directed by Ibrahim Al Kazem.
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Variety programme
2.00 Animal World
3.15 God's Creation: religious programme
3.35 Liqa Al Khamees: local programme: rounding up social news
5.00 Sally: cartoon serial
6.00 Sane'a Al Sayoof: Arabic serial
7.00 With Students: educational
8.00 Kul Al Funoon: focus on arts, presented by Rasha Magdi
8.30 With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Rajul Wa Al Qatara: Arabic serial
10.45 Kuraakeeb: Arabic feature film, starring Salah Saadani, Athar Al Hakeem, Abdulah Faraghi, Naeema Saqeer
12.15 Thursday's variety show
1.15 News Summary
1.20 World News via Satellite
1.45 Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 9.00 Holy Quran
9.20 Cartoons
9.45 Hawalah Shaqawah: children's serial
10.00 Variety
10.15 Children's Magazine
11.00 Ahadith Mauduwa:

- religious programme
11.15 Friday prayer
12.20 Colours: presented by Fatima Abdulwahab
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mitwalli Al Sharawi
2.15 Dard: Hindi film. Starring: Hema Malini, Rajesh Khanna
4.30 Songs
5.00 Sally: cartoon serial
6.00 Kuwait in a Week: weekly roundup of local news
6.30 Programmes review
7.00 Water is Life: educational programme
8.00 With the Family
8.45 Weekly religious talk
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Rajul Wa Al Qatara: Arabic serial
10.30 Late night variety show
11.45 World News via Satellite
12.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Police Academy: cartoons
6.30 Mr Wizard's World: an educational programme for young viewers, focusses on magic, illusions and scientific experiments
7.00 Wild America: "Weasles: Sleek and Savage"
7.30 Munsters Today: "Murder in Munsterland". Hermann believes a neighbour has committed murder... Comedy
8.00 News in English
8.40 Beauty and the Beast: Vincent is captured and tortured; meanwhile Diana finds evidence against the killer. Starring: Ron Periman.

- 9.30 Bill Cosby Show: The Huxtables provide family entertainment in tonight's show. Comedy.
10.00 Just for the Record: Record-breaking feats are captured on camera for this show.
10.30 Thursday Night Movie: "On the Run". Starring: Rod Taylor, Paul Winfield. An eye witness is pursued by killers.
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son: cartoons
6.30 Family Feature Film: "The Waltz King". Set in Vienna, this feature film tells the story of the young Strauss in the 1880s.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking Away: a look at what's on in Kuwait.
8.45 Glove TV: A Ticket to the World: global television magazine show—looking at the global village.
9.30 Weekend: Special on elections: sneak preview, just for a laugh, a visit to the Kuwait Blood Bank.
10.00 Tales from the Dark-side: strange and bizarre stories are featured in this serial. Election fever is the theme of tonight's episode.
10.30 Wiseguy: "Day Four". continued. General Masters' plot against Vinnie and Frank comes to light.
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

- Fajr 3.13 am
Dhuhr 11.47
Asr 3.21 pm
Maghreb 6.46
Isha 8.17

FRIDAY

- Fajr 3.13 am
Friday Prayer 11.47
Asr 3.21 pm
Maghreb 6.46
Isha 8.17

All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Hanafi Al Abaha (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi, Farouk Fishawi
Al Salmiya
Al Raqassah Wal Siyaseen (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salah Qabil
Al Hamra
The Rescue
Starring: Cliff Dillon

Al Jahra
Al Khamdah (Arabic)
Granada
Thunder Run
Salaibkhat
Kireedam (Malayalam)
Al Jeeb
Raffoo Chakkar (Hindi)
Ahmadi Drive-In
Inteha's Ayyuhul Zawaaj (Arabic)

FRIDAY

Drive-In
Al Raqassah Wal Siyaseen (Arabic)
Al Firdous
Hatya (Hindi)
Starring: Govinda, Neelam
Fahad Open-Air
Dost (Hindi)
Starring: Mithun Chakraborty, Anula
Al Fahad
Takkar (Bengali)

Al Jahra
Hard Ticket to Hawaii
Granada
C.H.U.D.
Salaibkhat
Thrashin'
Al Jeeb
Gharana (Hindi)

OICC Anniversary

June 8: 6.30 pm. IAC, Funerals. The Overseas Indian Cultural Congress will celebrate its first anniversary at the IAC. K.T. Mohammad's social play "Depasthampum Mahasharam" will be performed. Chief guest is Indian First Secretary Abdul Khaliq.

Kuwait Nomads R.F.C.

June 7 (Thursday): 8 pm for 8.30 start. Oval Ball at Hunting and Equestrian Club. For details call R. Houston—5658435; G. Adams—5645433; S. Hill—5391720.

Festival on Ice

June 1-24: Ice Capades present Festival on Ice at the Ice Skating Rink. Two shows daily. Afternoon show features Barbie Doll. The evening show features figure skating champions and exhibition show. Twenty world class skaters promise family entertainment. For reservations Tel. 2530000/2530000

At the SAS

Bistretto: Sunday/Wednesday—pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner. Al Room: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet. Clock: snack bar—burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Mesalliah Beach

Al Mubarakiah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays—Middle Eastern cuisine. Al Jawharah: Thursday special—special menu; music by Rainbow Band. Al Berdowh: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

At the Meridian

La Brasserie Restaurant
Wednesday: Indonesian. Corner, cuisine prepared in front of you. Thursday: Jazz Night—jazz music, seafood specialties. Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day. Versailles: Business lunch and dinner featuring fondue; grilled food.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets—Continental and Oriental cuisine.

Al Andalus Supper Club

Arabic Nite, every Thursday; Arabic band entertains guests. Friday Family Lunch: Disney fantasy on Fridays.

At Ramada Al Salam

Al Bendera Coffee Shop: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.

Al Mawardi Open-Air Cafe: open from 6 pm to midnight. Al Gandouli Grill Garden: open after 6 pm; grilled food.

Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm, ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

At the Plaza

Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu. Lolouah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks. Maroo Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

Murchana

June 15: Murchana, a musical evening featuring Bengali, Hindi and semi-classical songs at Meridian Hotel. For reservations call 5640389 after 5.30 pm; 4893424.

Beat Festival

July 12: Coming up next month is the Beat Festival featuring such bands as Neighbourhood, Hurricane, Symphony. The show will be performed at the Anak Restaurant, opposite G.P.O. More details later.

Konkani play

June 15: 5 pm. IAC, Funerals. The K.C.W.A. will perform a Konkani play *The Maku Naka*. Gate passes now available. For details contact Charles Vas—Tel. 4312953.

Sri Lanka holiday

June 7: The Sri Lankan embassy will be closed on the occasion of the 'Poson' in Sri Lanka.

Genoa police chief confident he can control hooligans

GENOA, June 6, (Reuters): Genoa police chief Vito Mattera is confident that common courtesy, shrewd tactics — and 3,000 officers — will control any soccer hooligans passing through the city en route to World Cup matches in Sardinia.

Mattera will have his regular 1,000-

man force, plus 2,000 reinforcement of which 700 will patrol Genoa's port where ferries depart for Sardinia. "We have 30 years experience of Italian soccer fans who are also quite lively. I don't think there will be any problems," he said yesterday.

About 10,000 English supporters

and 7,000 Dutch, both notorious for their violence, are expected to follow their teams to Cagliari for the June 16 tie. Mattera said up to 5,000 English fans are expected to use the Genoa ferry, but added that to date only some 1,000 tickets had been reserved

for the passage by foreigners.

Genoa police will segregate English and Dutch supporters at all times and swiftly escort them on to the ferries. "There will be separate ticket offices on separate docks for separate ferries, and an appropriate number of police officers will travel with the

ferries," Mattera said.

If fans arrive by special train it would be switched to a track leading straight to the port area, Mattera said. Chartered buses would be escorted by police from the highway exit to Genoa harbour. Mattera said he was not worried

about the difficulties in keeping watch on fans arriving by car. "Hooligans always travel in groups so they can make trouble, never alone. So it will be easy to control them," he said. Genoa police have planned their operation with the co-operation of British colleagues for more than six

months. "It has been a team operation. They have taught us much about the psychology of the hooligans," Mattera said. But he insisted that all fans would be treated like invited guests unless they broke the law.

W. Germany score 13 in the rain

Dunga's injury worries Brazil officials

CALDARO, Italy, June 6, (Agencies): West Germany swamped local amateurs South Tyrol 13-0 in a rain-soaked practice match yesterday as they tuned up for the start of their world cup challenge.

Juergen Klinsmann, Rudi Voeller and Frank Mill each hit hat-tricks, while Uwe Bein, Hans Pflueger, Karlheinz Riedle and Andreas Moeller scored one apiece.

Inter Milan's Klinsmann hammered home the first after only 26 seconds, a feat he would dearly love to duplicate on Sunday

when West Germany face Yugoslavia in their Group D opener in his home San Siro stadium.

Klinsmann and Voeller departed at the interval when the score was 7-0. All bar defenders Stefan Reuter and Thomas Berthold were substituted for the second half to give nearly everyone an outing.

The match, which attracted 4,500 paying customers, was played under dull grey skies in a near-constant drizzle which for a while turned into a downpour.

Team chief Franz Becken-

bauer declared himself relatively satisfied with the performance but noted his side had missed a lot of chances.

He said things would have to move 'like the devil' for defender Juergen Kohler to recover in time for Sunday's match from the torn knee muscle-fibre injury he sustained on Monday.

The West Germans, feeling at home this week in the autonomous German-speaking province of Alto Adige (South Tyrol), move to their main round base of Erba in the Lake Como area on Friday.

Brazilian midfielder Dunga aggravated a pulled muscle yesterday, injury that could force coach Sebastiao Lazaroni to change his defensive scheme for the team's opening World Cup match.

Brazil plays Sweden on Sunday in its first match in Group C. Dunga apparently pulled a muscle in his left leg during training Monday night and the injury flared yesterday.

The injury worried team officials, but wasn't considered major. Team sources said striker Bebeto, who wasn't expected to start on Sunday, also suffered a pulled muscle in his right leg. But his injury wasn't as severe as Dunga's, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The two players didn't practise yesterday afternoon, limiting themselves to light exercises in this city, 45 kilometres (30 miles) east of Turin in northwestern Italy.

The team sources said initially that it appeared unlikely Dunga would be able to play against Sweden on Sunday because his injury is the kind that takes a long time to heal and can be easily aggravated.

But Dunga, who is considered a key player in Brazil's defensive scheme, disputed that assessment.

"I hope to be in condition to play Sunday," he said later yesterday. "Tomorrow morning I will know more, but I'm confident I'll play on Sunday."

Dunga serves as the main link between the defenders and the midfield under Lazaroni's

new defensive lineup.

Observers speculated that Lazaroni might be forced to replace him with midfielder Silas, who would move up more on attack than Dunga, changing Brazil's style of play.

Bebeto was likely to have started the game on the substitutes' bench with Lazaroni preferring Muller as a striker with Careca.

Thirsty soccer supporters coming to World Cup games to Palermo are in for a disappointment as the local prefect has banned the sale of alcohol in the city on match days to help reduce the threat of hooliganism.

"The central government made it possible to make an ancient law banning alcohol operational again and the prefect decided to enforce it on these days," a spokesman for the local organising committee said yesterday.

The Sicilian capital hosts matches featuring Egypt, the Netherlands and Ireland.

The Dutch have a reputation for soccer violence and police here are clearly taking no chances with between 8,000 and 10,000 Dutch supporters expected to come to the island.

They will be joined by over 5,000 Irish fans and an unknown number of Egyptians, the spokeswoman added.

Czechoslovakia's World Cup soccer squad have lost the right to vote in the country's first free elections for 44 years.

The country's election law, drawn up since the overthrow of communist rule last year, makes no provision for citizens abroad to take part in the ballot on Friday and Saturday.



Hooligan leader

Paul Scarrot, the supposed leader of the English soccer hooligans, relaxing during a sightseeing excursion in Rome on Monday. Scarrot was deported from Italy on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gullit could become star of Cup

ROME, June 6, (AP): Dutch star forward Ruud Gullit is coming back from the injury that sidelined him for almost a year and players and coaches say the timing of his return could make him the star of the World Cup.

Elated teammates, coaches and opponents hailed Gullit's performance in the Netherlands' 2-0 win over Yugoslavia in a friendly match on Sunday.

"We have rediscovered our leader, we no longer feel like orphans," Dutch defender Frank Rijksaard told the Italian sports daily Corriere dello Sport.

"Ruud needed such a game to convince himself he was back. If in the Benfica match he was at 60 to 70 per cent of condition, at the World Cup he will be 100 per cent," said Marco van Basten.

The timing of Gullit's recovery from a knee injury has some players and coaches predicting he could emerge as the key player in this year's World Cup and boost the Netherlands' chances of reaching the final.

"In respect to the other players, he was on his back for 11 months of forced rest during which he has stored up a lot of energy," Yugoslav coach Ivica Osim told the newspaper.

"I think he will repeat what happened to Van Basten two years ago at the European Championship. He also had been reduced to a long period of inactivity by injury and then exploded in Germany. Gullit will do the same in Italy," said Osim.

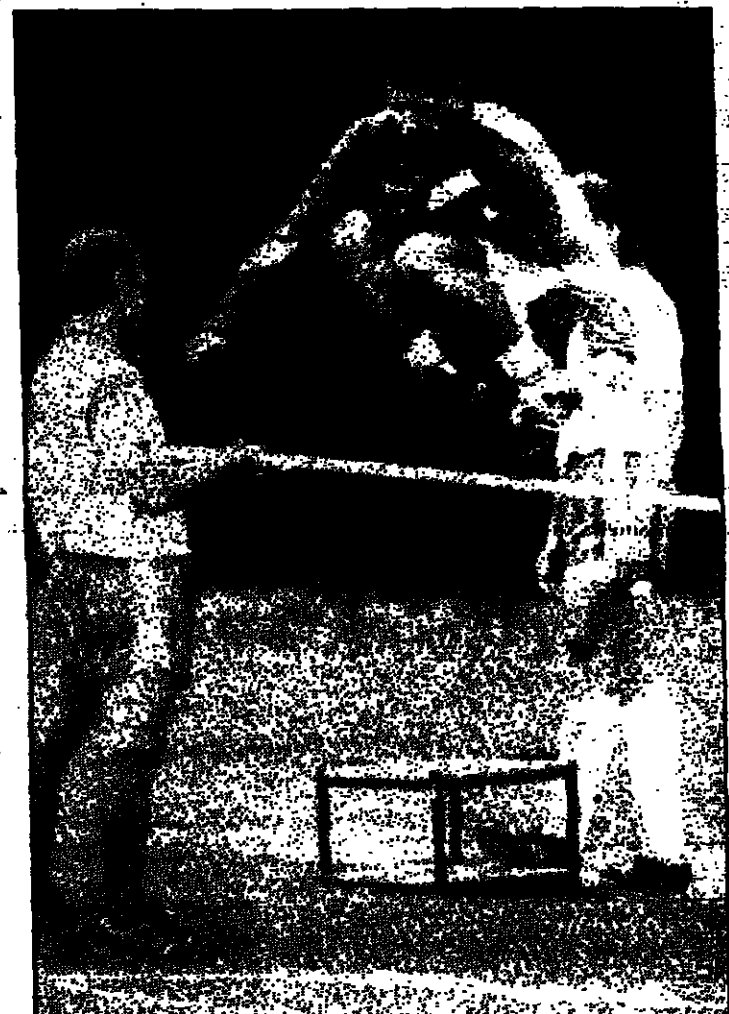
Van Basten came back from multiple ankle injuries to score five goals in as many games and lead the Netherlands to the European championship in 1988.

Gullit's head coach at A.C. Milan in the Italian League, Arrigo Sacchi, echoed the sentiment.

"Ruud will be the star of the World Cup," predicted Sacchi.

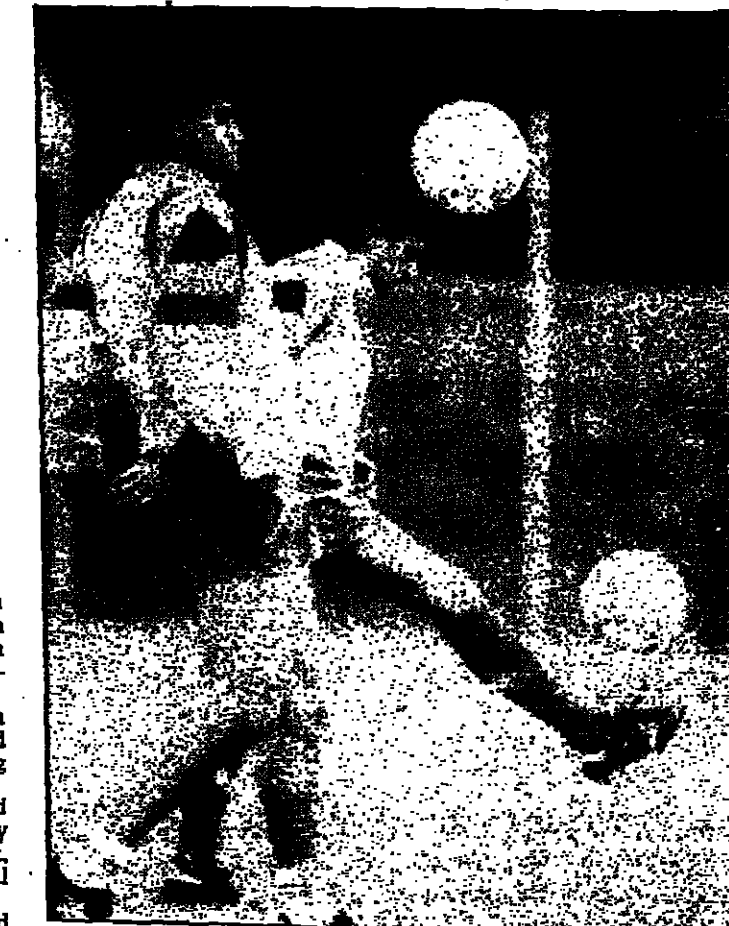
Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker was more restrained and said he was worried by all the euphoria over the match against Yugoslavia.

"The results didn't interest me," said Beenhakker. "It is the progress in play that comforts me. Gullit, for example, is only in the second phase of his recovery. He still lacks that winning blow, a goal. It is a question of time."



Practice sessions

Tony Meola, first choice goalkeeper for the US Cup team jumps over a stick as part of a strength and power exercise during a practice session. Below, two Spanish World Cup team members practise ball control during a practice session. (Reuters wirephoto)



Irish oldest, Americans youngest

ROME, June 6, (Reuters): Ireland have the oldest squad of the 24 finalists at the World Cup and the United States have the youngest, Fifa said yesterday.

The nine players aged over 30 in Ireland's 22-strong squad raised their average to 28.9 years. Only two other teams in the tournament, the Soviet Union and England, have squads with an average age over 28.

The Americans, whose midfielder Chris Henderson is the tournament's youngest player and only teenager at 19, have a youthful average of 24.2

Andreotti rebuffs Britain

ROME, June 6, (AP): Premier Giulio Andreotti said yesterday he rebuffed the British Foreign Secretary's warning about possible attacks by Palestinian guerrillas at the World Cup by telling him to "think about your own fellow citizens."

Andreotti's comments, during a brief reception for the Italian national soccer team, told reporters about his recent telephone conversation with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd.

"A few days ago I spoke with the English Foreign Secretary who warned me about a Palestinian threat to the World Cup," Andreotti told reporters.

"I replied to the secretary," the premier continued, "that we would take care of the Palestinians, but he should worry about his own fellow citizens. It seems the English always have to drink beer before a game. It becomes necessary to surround them with security."

Italian and English authorities have been co-operating on security measures for the Sardinian capital of Cagliari, where the English team will play its first-round games.

British authorities last month sent a list of known hooligans to Italian authorities, who have stationed 3,200 extra security forces in Cagliari.

Yesterday, Italian authorities deported a hooligan on the list who had managed to travel to Italy, on Monday, three English fans were fined \$150 and sentenced to 20-day jail terms after smashing furniture in their hotel room in Cagliari and stealing bed-sheets.

Crowd support

CORMONS, Italy, June 6, (AP): Spain has hired Italian soccer idol Paolo Rossi and put up promotional billboards from Venice to Trieste in an effort to win crowd support for its World Cup matches.

But if Italian fans decide to back the Spaniards, it may be for more mundane reasons, like Mediterranean solidarity.

"They're just like Italians," said one middle-aged man after waiting two hours for the Spanish players to appear.

Italian cooks take crash course

TIRRENIA, Italy, June 6, (Reuters): Italian cooks are taking a crash course in traditional American cuisine so the United States' World Cup soccer team can start the day on pancakes, muffins and maple syrup.

Cooks from a US Army base near the Americans' training camp at Tirrenia have taught the Italians to prepare breakfast American-style to make the young squad feel at home.

"But there was a bit of a cultural gap," US Army spokesman Jeff Fry said yesterday. "The Italian cooks kept asking us whether Americans really did eat all this for breakfast. They thought they were things people ate for a sweet rather than for breakfast."

The Italians, renowned for their diet of pasta and pizza, do not tend to go to work on a big breakfast. Bread rolls and jam normally suffice.

"Once you get past breakfast, Italian food is fine," Fry said. "But we were asked to help give the guys something they were used to in the morning."

The move is typical of the careful preparations the US have made for their squad, whose average age 24, ahead of tough first round group A matches against hosts Italy, Czechoslovakia and Austria.

The Americans, who have qualified for the finals for the first time in 40 years, are regarded as rank outsiders.

But the players, who meet the

Czechoslovaks in their opening match on Sunday, have looked relaxed in training at the secluded Tirrenia camp, which is tightly guarded by Italian police armed with pistols and guns.

Referees at the World Cup finals have been given extra protection against sophisticated television techniques that could prove their decisions were wrong.

Fifa general secretary Sepp Blatter said yesterday host television World Cup broadcaster RAI had been asked not to use their advanced computer and video projections, known as Telebeam, during matches at the finals.

"RAI has agreed that telebeam will only be used after matches are over," he said. "We must protect the referees. Anyway, you can't say that Telebeam is without errors."

"RAI has agreed that telebeam will only be used after matches are over," he said. "We must protect the referees. Anyway, you can't say that Telebeam is without errors."

Italy is mobilising its spies to keep an eye on the World Cup.

The interior ministry said 10 agents from military and civil intelligence would be allowed into each stadium for matches during the month-long soccer tournament starting on Friday.

They and up to 40 plainclothes policemen would be engaged in "activities of a secret nature," a statement said, in an apparent

reference to Italy's fears that terrorists could try to exploit the World Cup.

Thousands of uniformed police and paramilitary carabinieri will be on guard at stadiums in 12 Italian cities for the 52 matches. But the ministry ordered off-duty policemen not to turn up and try to get in free to watch soccer.

Austrian coach Josef Hickersberger does not agree with critics who contend Austria plays rough.

"Our team plays hard, it's true," Hickersberger said at a

press conference at his team's Artimino training camp outside of Florence yesterday. "But our defenders play at the same level as all the other international teams. I don't consider our defense to be unusually rough or dirty."

The Argentine players complained that Austrian defenders fouled them repeatedly during a 1-1 draw in a hard-fought friendly match in May.

The Austrian coach is not concerned that the expected stringent refereeing in the upcoming World Cup could hurt his team.



Stadium security

An Italian military officer stands guard with his Uzi submachine gun at the Olympic Stadium in Rome. Security is tight at all Cup venues. (Reuters wirephoto)

England deliver message to hooligans



Beardsley (left) scored three goals

ORISTANO, Sardinia, June 6, (Reuters): Steve McMahon scored six goals in England's final World Cup warm-up game yesterday.

But McMahon's goal was no accident — it had been planned by the England camp as a message against hooliganism.

Immediately after the midfielder beat reserve goalkeeper David Seaman in the match against a Sardinian selection, an announcement was relayed to the crowd of about 2,000.

Violence

It said: "The message from the England team to the supporters of all countries is: Don't score any own goals against football during the World Cup this summer. Say no to violence."

England FA delegation spokesman Jack Wiseman said: "Our message was aimed at the few who might act violently out of a misplaced sense of patriotism. No country needs that kind of support."

On target for England in the 10-2 win were Neil Webb (3), Steve Bull (2), Peter Beardsley (3), David Platt and McMahon.

Less than a dozen English fans watched the match, though more than 200 armed police and carabinieri were in attendance.

Sardinia, where England will play Group G games against the Netherlands, Ireland, and Egypt, is rated the most likely flashpoint for hooliganism during the first stage of the tournament.

The "own goal" stunt overshadowed England's victory which boosted morale after last Saturday's disappointing 1-1 draw with Tunisia in Tunis.

With one exception, Gianfranco Zola, the Sardinian select team comprised a mixture of semi-professional and amateur players from various Italian lower division clubs.

Zola is a full professional at Napoli where he is the recognised deputy for Diego Maradona.

England dominated the match with Bull and Beardsley both looking sharp and effective in attack against mediocre opposition.

But Zola often proved to be a threat and twice embarrassed Terry Butcher with his dribbling skill.

Manager Bobby Robson had chosen a team in which Terry Butcher partnered Mark Wright, his supposed rival for a central defensive role.

Wright, however, was forced to withdraw at halftime because he had suffered a neck strain. Midfielder Steve Hodge substituted, causing a reshuffle in the England rearward.

Refused

"Wright has ricked his neck," said Robson. "He has done it before and we are hoping it will not be anything serious."

Robson refused to be drawn by questions on his team selection. "I am still thinking about it," he said.

Red Sox edge past Yankees

BOSTON, June 6, (AP): Wade Boggs tripled and scored on Jody Reed's suicide squeeze in the eighth inning as the Boston Red Sox spoiled New York's comeback and sent the Yankees to their ninth loss in 10 games, in an American League baseball match.

The Red Sox won for the sixth time in eight games, staying in first place in the American League East. Earlier in the day, the League office suspended Boston manager Joe Morgan for three games, effective today, for remarks following last weekend's Brushback battle in Cleveland.

The Yankees, trailing 5-1 after the first inning, made it 8-1 with four runs in the eighth against Rob Murphy and Jeff Reardon (3-1).

But Boggs, knocked down by a pitch from Eric Plunk (2-2), got up and led off with a drive that skipped past right fielder Jesse Barfield for a triple. On a 3-1 count, Reed bunted to the left of the mound and Boggs scored, making the Red Sox 4-for-4 in squeeze tries this season.

Blue Jays 7, Twins 3. Tony Fernandez tripled twice and drove in three runs and Fred McGriff homered last night, leading the Toronto Blue Jays over the Minnesota Twins 7-3.

Fernandez, who leads the Majors with six triples, got three hits and scored twice. He is 9-for-14 with three triples since moving from the leadoff spot to the second slot last Saturday.

David Wells (3-1), who replaced John Cerutti in the starting rotation on May 21, gave up three runs on four hits, including homers by Gary Gaetti and Chicago's Mike, in seven innings. Roy Smith (4-5) took the loss.

Angels 6, Indians 2. Alan Trammell drove in two runs and Cecil Fielder and Lloyd Moseby each got two hits as the Detroit Tigers used 10 singles to beat Cleveland. The loss was the Indians' sixth in their last nine games.

Dan Petry (5-2) gave up two unearned runs, walked four and struck out four in five-plus innings, reducing his ERA to 2.51. Edwin Nunez pitched four scoreless innings, allowing three hits, for his first save.

The Tigers scored six runs on eight singles off a four-inning performance by Petry.

Mariners 10, White Sox 3. Jay Buhner hit a three-run double and Henry Cotto had an RBI triple and two-run single as the Seattle Mariners scored seven times in the fifth inning and beat the Chicago White Sox.

Brian Holman (7-3) won his fourth straight start despite giving up six runs four of them earned, on nine hits in five-plus innings.

Results	National League	American League
N.Y. Mets	6 Montreal	5
Pittsburgh	6 Chicago	5
Philadelphia	9 St. Louis	6
Atlanta	9 Los Angeles	4
San Diego	11 Houston	2
San Francisco	6 Cincinnati	4
Boston	9 N.Y. Yankees	8
Detroit	6 Cleveland	2
Toronto	7 Minnesota	3
Seattle	10 Chicago W.S.	3
California	6 Kansas City	4
Milwaukee	6 Baltimore	4
Oakland	7 Texas	4

Thomas scores 33 points

Detroit beat Portland

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan, June 6, (AP): Isiah Thomas scored 14 of his 33 points in a five-minute span after Portland had taken a 10-point lead last night lifting the Detroit Pistons to a 105-99 victory in the opening game of the National Basketball Association finals.

The teams both finished 59-23 in the regular season and each was 35-6 at home, with a split of their two meetings.

Most of the opening game reflected that closeness.

Portland led 80-78 in the first minute of the fourth quarter, but

a 10-2 run gave the Trail Blazers a 90-80 lead with 7:04 left.

Twice before, the Pistons had rallied from double-digit deficits to tie the score, but they never led until Thomas took over.

He tied the score 94-94 with a 3-pointer with 3:40 left, then hit another jumper and another 3-pointer to make it 99-94 with 1:49 remaining.

The trail Blazers' offensive fell apart after the 4:54 mark, when a jumper by Buck Williams gave them a 94-89 lead. The Trail Blazers were outscored 25-9 in the last 6:49 and that included

five Portland points in the final 29 seconds. Thomas had 16 of the Pistons' points in that run and the Trail Blazers did not score on 10 of 12 possessions from when they led 90-80 until Terry Porter hit a 3-pointer with 29 seconds left.

The Pistons are now 10-0 at home during the playoffs, and if they can maintain that perfect record at the Palace, they will become the third franchise in NBA history to repeat as champions.

Game 2 of the best-of-7 series will be at the palace tomorrow

night. Detroit has now held the opposition under 100 points in all 12 of its 1990 playoff victories. But the Pistons are 0-4, all on the road, when their opponent scores more than 100.

The Pistons have allowed an average of 92.8 in the playoffs this season. The record is 92.9, set last year when they won 15 of 17 games en route to their first NBA title.

Portland also has won a single championship, in 1977 when the Trail Blazers made their only other trip to the finals.

Joe Dumars had 20 points and Mark Aguirre added 18 for Detroit. Clyde Drexler led Portland with 21 points while Williams had 20 and Jerome Kersey 18.

The Trail Blazers, who led only 52-47 at halftime despite Detroit's 34 per cent shooting, got eight points from Kevin Duckworth in a span of 2:30 and opened a 64-56 lead with 7:39 left in the third quarter.

The Pistons then scored on four layups and two free throws in the next two minutes, tying the score 66-66.

Two free throws by Kersey and a fast-break layup and three-point play by Drexler then gave the Blazers a 77-69 advantage before they settled for an 80-76 lead after three periods.

Thomas scored 14 points from the 6:49 mark until there was 1:49 remaining, giving the Pistons a 99-94 lead they never relinquished.

"One of Isiah's greatest gifts is his leadership — the ability to take over," Daly said.

"The crowd really got into it and I got a burst of energy from somewhere," Thomas said. "I was getting nervous when we got behind."



Pistons' Dennis Rodman (centre) gives Thomas a hug. (Reuter wirephoto)

England bid for victory

Hadlee the key in first Test

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 6, (Reuter): Richard Hadlee, though nursing a broken bone in his right hand and just a month away from his 39th birthday, could still be the key figure in the first Test between England and New Zealand starting tomorrow.

Players with such an injury would be considered worth risking in a five-day match. But Hadlee, the world's leading Test wicket-taker, is in a class of his own.

England, bidding for their first home Test series win since 1985, may not take a similar risk with their new pace bowler, Chris Lewis.

Suffering a mysterious thigh injury, Lewis joined the 12-man squad in Nottingham but hopes of making his Test debut will rest on a further fitness Test and England may have to send for a late replacement.

Hadlee, though, is irreplaceable.

His bowling appears unaffected by the injury and team mate Martin Crowe has constructed a specially reinforced glove including extra padding, lots of tape and bits of steel to protect him when batting.

"I hadn't thought of him not playing," admitted New Zealand coach Bob Cumis, although the bone was broken only 12 days ago, ironically by Lewis in the second one-day international.

Hadlee has a special incentive to be fit. He spent 10 successful years in county cricket with Nottinghamshire from 1977 and is sure of tremendous ovation on what will be his last appearance on the Trent Bridge ground before his announced retirement at the end of the series.

England will not only be attempting to weather the guile of Hadlee but also to end one of the most miserable chapters in their history.

Since beating Australia in 1985, England have lost successive home series to New Zealand, India, Pakistan, West Indies and Australia with a lone one-Test victory over Sri Lanka hardly lighting the gloom.

But they showed distinct improvement in their tour of West Indies where with a little less ill-fortune they could have won instead of losing 2-1.

Under the captaincy of Graham Gooch, England showed a determination and confidence lacking in recent years. The selectors have shown their faith by including 10 from the West Indies tour in tomorrow's squad.

There are few arguments with the other two, the Lancashire batting pair of Mike Atherton and Neil Fairbrother, the latter recently scoring 366 in a county championship match.

But John Wright's New Zealanders, with recent home wins over Australia and India, will provide stiff opposition.

Without the presence of Hadlee, their bowling might not be regarded as any more than average, but their batting has considerable potential.

Apart from Wright himself, they have the genuine class of Martin Crowe, the grittiness of Andrew Jones plus a superbly in-form Mark Greatbatch, scorer of centuries in each of the two one-day internationals.

The ingredients for an intriguing start to the three-Test series are there.



Richard Hadlee



Thomas (centre) and Kersey (right) stretch for the ball as Pistons' James Edwards moves back. (Reuter wirephoto)

Americans take lead

MILAN, Italy, June 6, (AP): The United States took a commanding lead yesterday in the men's standings at the eight-nation track and field meeting here.

The US team piled up 60 points by taking six out of nine men's events on the first day of the two-day competition.

Second-place Soviet Union had 52 points and third-place France 46.5.

World shot put record-holder Randy Barnes and jumpers Michael Powell and Hollis Conway led the US sweep at the arena in this north Italian city.

Barnes was 1.26 metres off the world mark he set on May 20 with his best last night of 21.86 metres.

Powell, the 1988 Olympic silver medalist, took the long jump with 7.95 metres.

Conway, the US record holder, cleared 2.20 metres. Other US wins were achieved by Nat Page in the 400-metre hurdles, by Jeff Williams in the 100-metre and by the US quartet in the 4x100 metre relay.

Page, who was timed in 49.29 seconds, edged Soviet Vladimir Budko, who had set the season-best performance in 48.51, earlier this year.

The Soviet Union dominated women's races with four wins in eight events.

British javelin-thrower Fatima Whitbread has vowed that a shoulder operation today will not prevent her from returning to top-line competition.

Further surgery is also planned later in the year when part of her thigh bone will be slotted over the injury.

English county cricket results

LONDON, June 6, (Reuter): Results of three-day English County Championship cricket matches which ended yesterday:

At Worcester: Worcestershire v Yorkshire match abandoned. Yorkshire 222 in 66.5 overs and 106 for two. Worcestershire 288 in 100.1 overs. Worcestershire seven points Yorkshire six.

At Hove: Lancashire beat Sussex by nine wickets. Sussex 235 in 97.1 overs and 108 (P. DeFreitas six for 39, P. Patterson four for 52). Lancashire 324 in 91.4 overs and 22 for one. Lancashire 24 points Sussex six.

At Leicester: Leicestershire v Hampshire match abandoned. Leicestershire 178 in 53.8 overs and 189 for five, (Lewis 40 not out). Hampshire 349 for seven declared. Leicestershire four points Hampshire eight.

At the Parks: (friendly) Oxford University v Glamorgan match abandoned. Oxford 218 in 79.2 overs. Glamorgan 388 for

seven declared and 24 for one.

At Ilford: Essex v Middlesex match abandoned. Essex 257 in 92.5 overs and 305 for three (G. Gooch 120, P. Prichard 56 not out, M. Waugh 59). Middlesex 442 for two declared. Essex three points, Middlesex eight.

At Bristol: Gloucestershire v Somerset match abandoned. Gloucestershire 381 for seven in 122.3 overs declared, Somerset 225 in 73.5 overs and 158 for two, (S. Cook 81). Gloucestershire seven points, Somerset four.

At Tunbridge Wells: Kent v Nottinghamshire match drawn. Kent 275 in 91 overs and 276 all out, (G. Cowdrey 51, M. Fleming 102, F. Stephenson 6-84). Nottinghamshire 477 for six in 109.3 overs declared and 17 for three. Kent four points Nottinghamshire 318 for eight in 96 overs declared. Warwickshire five points, Northamptonshire eight.

Scotland win third tour game

NELSON, New Zealand, June 6, (Reuter): Scotland survived a rash of penalties to beat a combined Marlborough-Nelson Bays side 23-6 in the third match of their New Zealand rugby union tour today.

Two tries by winger Alex Moore and one each by number eight Graham Marshall and openside flanker Adam Buchanan-Smith were backed up by the host of fullback Peter Dods, who kicked two conversions and a penalty goal.

But of major concern to Scottish coach Ian McGeechan would have been the 22 penalties awarded against his Five Nations Championship side, mainly for lifting in the lineouts and for off-side play.

The slippery conditions did little to improve a scrappy game.

At halftime Scotland led 6-3 after a try to Moore, while home team flyhalf Ian Stark kicked a penalty.

The second half saw greater Scotland enterprise, although they continued to infringe. The loose trio of Buchanan-Smith, Marshall and blindside flanker Derek Turnbull were the key to a strong second-half performance.

However, the tourists will have to improve vastly if they are to match Southland and Manawatu in their remaining midweek matches. They won and drew in their previous two matches.

Teams: Scotland: Peter Dods, Alex Moore, Craig Redpath, Graham Shiel, Stewart Porter, Doug Wyllie, Greig Oliver, Graham Shiel, Stewart Porter, Doug Wyllie, Greig Oliver, Graham Marshall, Adam Buchanan-Smith, Derek Turnbull, Damian Cronin, George Weir, Paul Burnell, John Allan, Alex Brewster (captain).

Marlborough-Nelson Bays: Chris Trahen, Jack Keenan, Paul Phillips, Sonny Alessana, Brent Baxter, Ian Stark, Paul Karena, Willie Dempster (Todd Blackadder), Rob Avery, Robert Jones, Frank Marfell (captain), Renee Reitsveld, Ken Hart, Steve Berkett, Paul Nicholson.

In Sydney, experienced French centre Franck Messel failed a fitness test on an injured hamstring today and will miss the first rugby union Test against Australia on Saturday.

Philippe Sella, who has also been kept out of the first two tour games with a nagging groin injury, was passed fit and will partner Jean Claude Langlade in the centres after playing at fullback in France's second Test defeat of Australia last year.

French coach Jacques Fouroux, who said he was not prepared to gamble on two players with potential injury problems, named two debutants in the pack for the first of the three Tests, Moroccan-born flanker Abdel Benazzi and number eight Christophe Deslandes.

France — Serge Blanco (captain); Stephane Weller, Philippe Sella, Jean Claude Langlade, Patrice Lagisquet, Didier Cambera, Henri Sanz, Christophe Deslandes, Abdel Benazzi, Eric Melville, Olivier Roumat, Thierry Devergie, Philippe Gallart, Louis Armay, Marc Fajolle.

Douglas starts training for title defence

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 6, (UPI): James "Buster" Douglas has formally begun training for the first defence of his heavyweight boxing championship, although the date and opponent have yet to be decided.

Douglas, admittedly heavier than he was when he knocked out former undisputed champ Mike Tyson Feb 10 in Tokyo, said Monday night he has begun training that it will take him about two weeks to get back in the groove.

"It's a matter of my body getting acclimated back to the training regimen," said Douglas, who hopes to fight No. 1 challenger Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas sometime in September. "After the first two weeks, it will be non-stop."

Douglas will move his camp to Las Vegas Friday where he will take part in a Goodwill Games benefit and remain for the heavyweight double-header next week featuring Tyson and former champ George Foreman.

"I don't foresee any problems with that," said Douglas. "Even there, training is going to be the No. 1 thing."

"We've got work to do, no question," said J.D. McCauley, Douglas' trainer and uncle. "But that's the way it should be when you open camp. He needed that vacation — he deserved it."

Douglas currently is in a legal battle with promoter Don King over his contract with Douglas. The suit is scheduled to go to court in New York on June 26.

Judge Robert Sweet of US District Court in Manhattan set the court date yesterday and will preside over the matter that has left boxing's heavyweight division in legal entanglements since Douglas won the title more than three months ago.

Douglas and his manager, John Johnson, sued King, seeking to break the promoter's multi-fight contract with the heavyweight champion.

The suit was filed Feb 21, 11 days after Douglas scored a star-

ting 10th-round knockout of Mike Tyson in Tokyo to win the title.

King filed a counter suit in New York in an effort to hold Douglas to his contract. The spike-haired promoter is seeking more than \$75 million in damages from Douglas and Steve Wynn, owner of the Mirage Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

King has charged Wynn with interference for signing Douglas to a two-fight contract to defend his title in New York.

The suit was scheduled to be heard in Las Vegas last month but was shifted to New York because Sweet previously ruled on most of the issues. He says the only major point is whether King breached his contract by trying to help Tyson overturn his loss to Douglas.

Following the Tokyo bout, King protested on Tyson's behalf, contending Douglas received a long count when he was knocked down in the eighth round. Douglas and Johnson argue King acted contrary to Douglas' best interests.

In a contract signed Dec. 31, 1988, Douglas gave King exclusive promotional right to his fights for three years. The deal was to be extended if Douglas won the title.

Douglas had claimed King's contract with him was invalid in Nevada because the state does not allow multi-fight arrangements and the contract tied him to King for too long.

Sweet denied judgements on all those claims.



Eid Falah (right): wants to develop his driving skills

Falah to attend UK rally school

KUWAIT, Twice Kuwait National Rally champion Eid Falah will be sponsored by Marlboro in an advance rally school in England next month. The Kuwait star will be joined by Saudi Arabia's Mohammed Al Malki on the special two day course.

"This is a great chance to develop my driving skills", said 29-year-old Falah who has dominated rallying in Kuwait in recent years.

The school to be attended by the Arab drivers is run by Bill Gwynne who have previously trained such illustrious Arab drivers as Mohammed Bin Sulayem from Dubai and Prince Abdulla of Jordan.

This year alone the Bill Gwynne School will train over 1,000 budding stars.

"I plan to teach advanced skills for driving in

forest and tarmac which are not available in the Gulf," said Gwynne himself an accomplished driver.

Marlboro-sponsored Falah has in recent years developed a reputation as a driver of great skill outside of Kuwait, through participation in Marlboro Desert Challenge rounds in Qatar, UAE and Bahrain.

"With the break in Gulf motorsport during the summer, the timing suits me as a build-up to the BP 2000 Trophy, Kuwait in September," said Falah.

The Kuwaiti driver will be behind the wheel of a 200 bhp Ford Escort during his visit to the UK, quite a change for his regular Mitsubishi Pajero vehicle. He leaves for London on July 10.



Douglas shows off his title belt. Right: King (right) with Tyson at the latter's birthday party last year.



Stage set for World Cup soccer finals

Favourites tipped to reach 2nd round

ROME, June 6, (Reuters): World Cup favourites Italy, Brazil and the Netherlands should reach the second round of the finals from the group matches which last until June 21.

Sixteen teams qualify for the knockout section from the 24 finalists, who are divided into six groups of four. The prospects in each group are as follows:

Group A (Rome, Florence): Italy, Austria, Czechoslovakia, United States.

Hosts Italy head a group which at first sight looks to give them an easy passage to the second round. But the Italians, who have a tight defence marshalled by libero Franco Baresi, have lacked a sharp attacking edge of late where they rely heavily on Gianluca Vialli.

They could face problems in their first match on Saturday against lively Austria. The Austrians beat European champions the Netherlands 3-2 last week, using fast counter-attacks and the slippery skills of strikers Gerhard Rodax and Toni Polster.

Czechoslovakia, who have not been past the first round since they finished runners-up 1962, are missing organisation and flair in their recent warm-up matches.

The elegant, commanding and versatile Jozef Chovanec is likely to be their key figure.

The United States are regarded as rank outsiders but they have qualified for the first time for 40 years and, with the tournament's youngest squad, feel they have nothing to lose.

Group B (Milan, Naples, Bari): Argentina, Soviet Union, Romania, Cameroon.

World Cup holders Argentina, who play the opening match of the tournament against Cameroon in Milan on Friday, are the group favourites but they may find it hard to produce their best outside South America. Much will depend on the genius of Diego Maradona.

Argentina's build-up has been marred by problems in getting players together from their foreign bases as well as a chronic lack of goals which encourages the hopes of the three rivals.

The Soviets have kept faith with most of the players who reached the European Championship final in 1988 and impressed in



Egypt's Hisham Abdel Resoul (left) arrives on crutches with a team-mate at Palermo airport today. Right: West Germany's Lothar Matteaus in action during practice. (Reuters wirephoto)



the Mexico World Cup four years ago. But they look past their peak and could miss powerful midfielder Alexei Mikhailichenko, who is injured.

Romania, who ousted Denmark in a tough qualifying group, are fired with new patriotic enthusiasm after the country's revolution last December. Led by playmaker Gheorghe Hagi, the "Maradona of the Carpathians," who recently agreed to join Real Madrid, they could spring a few surprises.

Cameroon proved in the 1982 finals in Spain that they must be taken seriously. They drew with Italy and finally bowed out without losing a match. Acrobatic goalkeeper Joseph-Antoine Bell could frustrate the best, even Maradona.

Group C (Turin, Genoa): Brazil, Sweden, Scotland, Costa Rica.

Three times world champions Brazil are clear favourites though they could be pushed by Sweden, a technically solid side full of exiled players with wide European experience.

Brazil's unusually cautious tactic of playing a sweeper behind the back four will almost certainly produce fewer thrills but greater consistency, a quality not normally associated with previous

squads. But midfield stars Valdo and Silas could provide the artistry to remind the fans that Brazilian players still have remarkable technical skills.

Sweden, not beaten by Brazil for 25 years, plan to continue the run and force a draw in the opening match. They hope striker Mats Magnusson can continue his free-scoring run with Benfica in the Portuguese League last season.

Scotland, as unpredictable as ever, could qualify for the latter stages for the first time but only if they shake off a "kamikaze" trait that has seen them score five own goals in the last eight matches.

Costa Rica complete the group and have the advantage of meeting the fragile Scots in the heat and humidity of Genoa.

Group D (Milan, Bologna): West Germany, Yugoslavia, Colombia, United Arab Emirates.

West Germany, losing finalists in 1982 and 1986, appear to have been dealt an easy assignment but they often make an indifferent start.

They have experience and ability throughout. Their five Italian-based players, Lothar Matthaeus, Rudi Voller, Jurgen Klinsmann, Andreas Brehme

and Thomas Berthold, will feel at home and midfielder Thomas Haessler, who joins them in Italy next season, could emerge as one of the tournament's stars.

Yugoslavia look the second strongest and with players of flair, like Dragan Stokovic and Zlatko Vujovic, should have little trouble advancing.

Colombia, whose preparations were interrupted by death threats from a group seeking to cleanse domestic soccer of drug money, look to the attacking skills of Carlos Valderrama and the bold goalkeeping of Rene Higuita.

For the United Arab Emirates, reaching the World Cup finals for the first time is achievement enough. Anything else would be a bonus.

Group E (Verona, Udine): Belgium, Spain, Uruguay, South Korea.

The battle for second round places should be the closest of all with all four confident of going through.

Seeded Belgium, semifinalists in 1986, are pinning their hopes on winning their opening match against the Koreans, probably the strongest of the World Cup underdogs, and expect to overcome Spain, whom they beat in the quarterfinals four years ago.

They are boosted by the return

to form of midfielder Enzo Scifo after two years in the doldrums.

Spanish coach Luis Suarez said he feared twice world champions Uruguay more than the Belgians. His team has a strong midfield guided by Michel and Rafael Martin Vazquez and a great striker in Emilio Butragueno, their Real Madrid team mate and scorer of four goals against the Danes in the Mexico finals.

Oscar Washington Tabarez, the Uruguayan trainer, believes his team, who boast a brilliant front-line partnership in Enzo Francescoli and Ruben Sosa, could go on to win the title provided they survive the group.

South Korea are confident they will not leave Italy empty-handed and coach Lee Hoe-Taik has focussed on beating Uruguay, the side he sees as the weakest of his three rivals.

Group F (Cagliari, Palermo): England, Netherlands, Ireland, Egypt.

European champions the Netherlands should justify their standing among the World Cup favourites by winning the group.

But they face a tough challenge from England, determined to make up for their dismal showing in the 1988 European finals, the obdurate Irish and the unpredictable Egyptians.

In schemer-striker Ruud Gullit, recently returned after missing virtually all last season through injury, marksman Marco van Basten, the versatile Frank Rijkaard and libero Ronald Koeman, the Dutch have four stars who appear to be running into form at the right time under new coach Leo Beenhakker.

England, less sophisticated in tactics and technique, have great reserves of courage and stamina and also possess in Gary Lineker, top scorer in the 1986 finals, a match-winning striker. The form of enigmatic winger John Barnes, a world-class player at his best, could also be decisive.

Ireland's hopes rest on the solid teamwork installed by English manager Jack Charlton, who has led them to the finals for the first time.

Egypt, in the finals for the first time since 1934, recently beat Scotland 3-1 in a warm-up match and have proved they have the strength and skill to spring a surprise.



A nun examines World Cup T-shirts. (Reuters wirephoto)



A special anti-terrorism squad of the Italian police during a recent exercise. (Reuters wirephoto)



Italian policemen stand guard in front of the Milan Meazza Stadium. (Reuters wirephoto)



A worker solders a crowd control divider at Rome's Olympic Stadium. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sainz takes first place in Greece

ATHENS, June 6, (Reuters): Carlos Sainz of Spain steered his Toyota Celica turbo to victory in the 2,050-km Acropolis Rally today to become the new world championship leader.

Sainz clocked seven hours 34 minutes 44 seconds in the rally's 48 special stages, 46 seconds ahead of Lancia's Flying Finn Juha Kankkunen. Italian world champion Massimo Biasion, also in a Lancia, was third.

"This is the happiest day of my life. After winning the Acropolis everything is possible including the world championship," Sainz said. "My car was strong and reliable and I never faced a serious problem."

The 28-year-old Spaniard won 15 tough special stages over 625 kms of gravel roads. He dominated the four-day rally after the second day despite being hotly pursued by the two Lancias.

Sainz is the only Toyota driver ever to win the Acropolis. He joined the Japanese racing firm in 1989.

Lancia suffered a blow during the 29th special stage yesterday when former championship leader Didier Auriol of France was forced to withdraw after a rock on a bumpy mountain road split his crankcase. At that point he was fifth.

Auriol's withdrawal sent Sainz to the top of the championship standings with 60 points. The Frenchman remained at 55 followed by Biasion with 44 and Kankkunen with 42.

Sainz's team mate Mikael Ericsson of Sweden, who recovered from a power steering problem on Monday, was fourth.

Suffocating heat and dense dust over some of Greece's most formidable mountain tracks caused a large number of retirements with only 34 cars finishing out of 97-starters.

Standings
Leading placings after Wednesday's final stage of the 37th Acropolis Rally:

1. Carlos Sainz (Spain) Toyota Celica turbo seven hours 34 minutes 44 seconds
2. Juha Kankkunen (Finland) Lancia Delta HF 7:35:30; 3. Massimo Biasion (Italy) Lancia Delta HF 7:37:42; 4. Mikael Ericsson (Sweden) Toyota Celica turbo 7:49:40; 5. Alex Fiorio (Italy) Lancia Delta Integrale 8:02:07.

Lendl warms up for Wimbledon

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): Ivan Lendl, battling against the British weather as well as his opponent, warmed up for Wimbledon yesterday with a bigger and more powerful tennis racket.

The world number one beat Australian Neil Borwick 6-1 6-1 in the second round of the Beckenham Lawn Tennis Championships but had to play through a downpour to finish his match.

Lendl's new racket, bigger in the head than the type he has used for most of his career, was designed to give extra power on grass and he said he was more than satisfied with it.

As the 30-year-old Czechoslovak served for the match at 5-1 in the second set, the skies opened. The two played eight points in the rain before Lendl won on his second match point.

Lendl deliberately missed this year's French Open to concentrate all his energy on grass court play before Wimbledon, the only Grand Slam title that he has failed to win.

Quest for Fame triumphs

EPSOM, England, June 6, (Reuters): Quest for Fame, a 7-1 chance ridden by English champion jockey Pat Eddery, gave first-season trainer Roger Charlton an astonishing classic double when he won the Epsom Derby horse race today.

On Sunday, Charlton, 40, a former stockbroker, saddled Sanglamore, ridden by Eddery, to win the French Derby at Chantilly for the same owner, Prince Khalid Abdulla of Saudi Arabia.

It is only the second time in racing history a trainer and owner have won both derbies in the same season and the first time a novice trainer has achieved such a feat.

Eddery and Quest for Fame were always prominent and won by three lengths from 8-1

shot Blue Stag, the mount of American Cash Assmusen.

Elmaamul (10-1), ridden by Willie Carson, another first year on Naskwan, finished third another one and a half lengths away.

Results

Result of the English derby horse racing classic for three-year-olds run over 12 furlongs (2.4 km) today (value to winner 355,000 pounds sterling, \$596,000).

1. Quest for Fame 7-1 (ridden by Pat Eddery)
2. Blue Stag 8-1 (Cash Assmusen)
3. Elmaamul 10-1 (Willie Carson)
4. Kabeel 33-1 (Michael Roberts)
18 ran. Razzen 9-2 favourite
Distances: three lengths, one and a half

Wilander opts out

STOCKHOLM, June 6, (Reuters): Top Swedish tennis player Mats Wilander has pulled out of the Wimbledon tournament to be with his family following the recent death of his father, his brother said today.

"Mats has other things to think about than tennis right now. The whole family is going through a tough time. Besides he didn't practice much when our father was ill," Anders Wilander told Reuters.

Aouita undergoes surgery

PARIS, June 6, (AP): Said Aouita, five-time world-recordholding runner and gold medalist at the 1984 Olympic Games, said today he feels optimistic about his career after surgery on a nagging calf injury.

He will stay five more days in the hospital after his operation yesterday in Paris and hopes to be back in action by late summer.

"I decided to get operated on, so that I won't have any more problems before the next Olympic Games," Aouita said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press. "I'm tired of winning three races and losing five, just because of my calf problems."

Muster beats Ivanisevic for semifinals

PARIS, June 6, (AP): Thomas Muster overcame a self-inflicted crack on the shin and a rugged all-court attack from Goran Ivanisevic to reach the semifinals at the French Open today.

Muster, the seventh seed from Austria, won 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 and will meet the winner of the last quarterfinal between fourth-seeded Andre Gomez of Ecuador and French qualifier Thierry Champion.

The other semifinal pits American Andre Agassi, the third seed, against unseeded Jonas Svensson of Sweden.

Muster, the Italian Open champion, slammed his shin with the racket so hard on the second-set shot that he started bleeding, and was afraid more extensive damage might have been done.

"It hurt pretty bad," Muster said. Not enough to affect the outcome of his quarterfinal against the unseeded Yugoslav, who eliminated Boris Becker in the first round.

Agassi was a few days off to work on his designer stubble. Jennifer Capriati will be trying to roll up credits in a self-designated school course called Tourism 101.

When the beard stops growing and the buses stop rolling, then the two young Americans will find themselves one step ahead from the finals of the French Open.

Agassi out-powered Michael Chang, strip-



Muster celebrates his victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

ping the 18-year-old of his men's title with a 6-2, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 display of muscle yesterday. It earned the glitzy 20-year-old from the Las Vegas strip his second semifinal berth

here in three years and fourth in Grand Slam events. Agassi is 2-0 against Svensson lifetime.

Capriati kept her marks in Paris perfect with a 6-2, 6-4 victory yesterday over seventh-seeded Mary Joe Fernandez.

The match lasted about as long as a math class and added up to 30 — the combined ages of the 14-year-old Capriati and the 16-year-old Seles, who meet in one of the women's semis tomorrow.

Seles, the second seed, stretched her winning streak to 30 matches but needed all her ability to do it. Two points away from defeat, she rallied to beat Manuela Maleeva 3-6, 6-1, 7-5.

Top-ranked Steffi Graf and Jana Novotna meet in the other women's semi. Graf, who like Capriati has not dropped a set in the tournament, beat ninth-seeded Conchita Martinez 6-1, 6-3, while Novotna defeated Katerina Maleeva 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

The Agassi-Chang match lived up to its billing — two power-punchers pounding away, sending up clouds of dust from the red clay with their shots.

"I think there has been a big improvement in my game," Agassi said. "I am now physically capable. I don't need to panic now and just go for big shots. I see more clearly what I want to accomplish out there."

England 'keeper

CAGLIARI, June 6, (Reuters): England's 40-year-old goalkeeper Peter Shilton missed training today because of a jarred knee, joining a growing list of casualties.

S.African sports

BARCELONA, Spain, June 6, (Reuters): African Olympic committees agreed today to meet South African sports organisations in August to discuss conditions for readmitting South Africa to the Olympic movement.

Havelange stays

ROME, June 6, (AP): A Fifa congress today re-elected Joao Havelange of Brazil to another four-year term as president of the world soccer federation.

1996 Olympics

BARCELONA, Spain, June 6, (Reuters): Atlanta won the right yesterday to be first to present its case for hosting the 1996 Summer Olympic Games to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Free transfer

LONDON, June 6, (Reuters): Manchester United signed their football association cup replay goalkeeper Les Sealey on a free transfer yesterday.

Split draw

MELBOURNE, Australia, June 6, (AP): Goran Vucovic scored in the 60th minute today to give Hajduk Split of the Yugoslavian First Division a 2-2 draw with the Australian national soccer team at Olympic Park.

Legal action

BRUSSELS, June 6, (Reuters): The Belgian Soccer Federation is to take legal action over allegations that World Cup referee Marcel van Lunghove took bribes in a European Cup semifinal, a federation spokesman said yesterday.

Romania win

ANDRIA, Italy, June 6, (AP): Gavril Balint and Marius Lacatus scored in the final 10 minutes to give Romania a 4-2 victory over a Third Division Italian Club yesterday evening in a World Cup warmup match.

Sheraton Bridge

RESULTS of the Sheraton bridge game held on Tuesday:

N/S: 1. Ady Tiah & Sherin R.

2. Dr Sead & Sabir and Avurs & Saad.

E/W: 1. Desmond Pereira & Supre

2. Laila & Raddy

3. D'Souza & Mrs Pereira

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